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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Agricultural Estimates

Boise, Idaho

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - JANUARY 1, 1949

BOISE, IDAHO, January 30, 1949:-The farm wage rate in Idaho on January 1, with board and room was \$140.00 per month. This was the same as January 1 last year. The average wages paid per day without board or room was \$7.50 compared with \$7.40 on January 1 a year ago.

UNITED STATES: Wage rates paid to hired farm workers on January 1 continued their rise. They were up 3 percent from a year earlier. Farm employment was curtailed by unfavorable weather. There were 7,155,000 persons at work on farms during the week ended December 25, a third of a million less than a year earlier.

Farm wage rates on January 1, 1949 averaged 60 cents per hour when all cash rates were converted to per hour equivalents and weighted by the number of workers receiving each type of rate. This was 2 cents per hour more than on January 1 a year ago and 2 cents less than on October 1. The decrease from October 1 was less than usual as shown by the 3 percent increase in the seasonally adjusted index of farm wage rates. The seasonally adjusted index indicates that while wage rates are still increasing as of the first of this year the rate of increase is less this year than it has been in the past few years. It appears likely that lower prices received by farmers and prospective lower net incomes are tending to limit increases in farm wage rates.

Comparisons by type of wage rates for this January with those for the previous year and the previous quarter show about the same pattern of change for each type. The level of wage rates was higher on January 1 than a year earlier and less than on October 1, 1948. The per week and per hour without board or room categories are exceptions where the October 1 rates were below January 1, 1949. The changes in both the per hour rates probably need some explanation. The October 1 per hour with house rate is high in comparison with January rates, mainly because payment at hourly rates is of greatest importance in the West during the harvest season while during the winter and spring months it is used in the South. The per hour rate without board or room shows an opposite trend. The October rate was lower than in January in either year. The lower rate in October was due to a very large proportion of workers employed at these rates in the South.

Weather during the week ended December 25 was very unfavorable for farm work. Heavy rains along the Atlantic Coast, which turned to snow from Maryland northward early in the week, limited field work in the area during the entire week except in Florida. Heavy snow also fell in the upper Mississippi Valley and eastward. By the end of the week the coldest weather of the season, which had moved into the West early in the week, had covered the entire country. Additional snow accompanied the movement of cold weather across the country.

With unfavorable weather during the reporting week and especially good progress with fall harvest a 5 percent decrease in farm employment from a year ago is not surprising. An additional factor was the unusually pleasant weather during the survey week last year which held employment up.

The number of people working on farms decreased nearly 2 millions from late November to late December. The decrease in family workers amounted to a little more than a million and a quarter and that for hired workers to a little more than a half million. The seasonal decline in total employment was about 150,000 larger than a year earlier.

PERSONS EMPLOYED, DURING WEEK OF DECEMBER 19-25, 1948

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS	December Average 1944-48*	November 23-29, 1947	December 21-27, 1947	November 21-27, 1948	December 19-25, 1948
	T h o u s a n d s				
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT					
United States	7,397	9,219	7,487	9,047	7,155
Mountain	276	320	285	301	264
Pacific	412	489	432	486	398
TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS #					
United States	6,412	7,607	6,449	7,457	6,176
Mountain	216	231	220	218	207
Pacific	279	295	286	292	269
TOTAL HIRED WORKERS /					
United States	985	1,612	1,038	1,590	979
Mountain	60	89	65	83	57
Pacific	133	194	146	194	129

* Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least 1 day before the end of the month.

Includes farm operators doing 1 or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages.

/ Includes all persons doing 1 or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGE RATES BY STATES JAN. 1, 1948 & JAN. 1, 1949 *

STATE	Per Month With Board and Room		Per Month With House		Per Day Without Board or Room		Per Hour Without Board or Room	
	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949
	D o l l a r s							
Montana	120.00	125.00	155.00	158.00	6.10	6.80	.76	.90
IDAHO	140.00	140.00	174.00	171.00	7.40	7.50	.93	.92
Wyoming	117.00	120.00	155.00	155.00	7.00	6.60	.90	.90
Colorado	114.00	114.00	140.00	151.00	6.40	6.40	.74	.80
New Mexico	90.00	93.00	124.00	121.00	5.20	5.40	.60	.64
Arizona	125.00	130.00	170.00	174.00	5.60	6.10	.67	.74
Utah	130.00	135.00	162.00	165.00	6.40	6.60	.85	.90
Nevada	130.00	130.00	165.00	160.00	6.10	6.60	.85	.90
Washington	153.00	145.00	191.00	185.00	8.00	8.30	1.00	1.04
Oregon	142.00	140.00	170.00	175.00	7.70	7.90	.93	.95
California	140.00	150.00	184.00	194.00	7.80	8.10	.91	.94
UNITED STATES	100.00	102.00	117.00	122.00	4.40	4.60	.74	.77

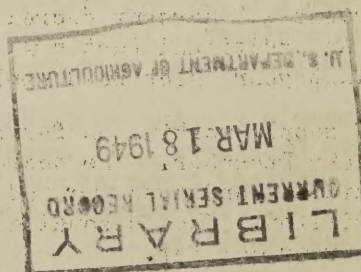
* Certain wage rates are not estimated for some States because they are relatively unimportant.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Agricultural Estimates
Boise, Idaho

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES -- JULY 1, 1949

BOISE, IDAHO, July 18, 1949:- As of July 1, 1949 the average Idaho farm wage rate of \$146.00 per month (with board and room) was \$9.00 lower than a year ago, with a house the rate was \$15.00 lower. On the other hand, the rate per day without board and room held steady at \$7.90 and the straight hourly wage without board and room was 2¢ per hour higher.

UNITED STATES: Farm wage rates did not rise quite as much between April 1 and July 1 this year as they did last. As a result, for the second consecutive quarter wage rates averaged slightly lower for the United States as a whole than on the corresponding date a year earlier. The wage rate index unadjusted for seasonal variation climbed from 408 percent of the 1910-14 average on April 1 to 438 percent on July 1, while the seasonally adjusted index rose from 416 on April 1 to 425 on July 1, 6 points below the level of a year ago.

About 4 percent more hired farm workers were at work during the week of June 19-25 than during the corresponding week a year earlier. Crop reporters in many States report a general easing in the supply of farm labor for hire, which in many cases permits farmers to be more selective in their hiring from the standpoint of quality and efficiency of workers. Family employment was about 2 percent lower than last year, while total farm employment of 12,019,000 was about the same as a year earlier.

For the United States as a whole, the wage rate increase from April 1 to July 1 occurred in all types of rates except per week without board or room, which was slightly lower. However, there were significant differences between the movements of wage rates in the different regions because of variations in the timing of rush jobs and differences in the employment situation. In New England, where the decrease in non-agricultural employment opportunities has been greater than in other regions all types of wage rates were lower on July 1 than on April 1. A similar weakening occurred in the South Atlantic States. At the other extreme, all types of rates were higher than on April 1 in the West North Central and West South Central States, where a large winter wheat crop was being harvested. In the Middle Atlantic and East North Central States monthly and weekly wage rates were steady but daily and hourly rates were higher than on April 1. In the East South Central States rates were slightly higher or steady, while in the Mountain States movements were small. In the Pacific States, where hourly rates are important, these hourly rates were unchanged, while one of the monthly rates was up slightly, the other unchanged.

Compared with last July, for the United States as a whole, the monthly and weekly rates were lower, the daily rates were slightly higher, and the hourly rates were divided, one up, one down. All types of rates were lower than last year in New England and the East North Central States, while in the West North Central States all rates were lower except the rate per day with board and room, which was unchanged. Similarly, all rates except per day without board and room were lower than last year in the Middle Atlantic States. In the South Atlantic and Pacific States the most important rates, hourly, were lower than last year, but most other rates were higher. In the South Central States the hourly rate without board and room was down from last year, but most other rates were slightly higher. The situation was reversed in the Mountain States, where hourly rates were up from the previous year, but all other rates were lower.

(OVER)

WARM WAGE RATES BY STATES JULY 1, 1948 AND JULY 1, 1949

STATE	PER MONTH		PER MONTH		PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With Board and Room		With House		Without Board or Room		Without Room or Board	
	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Montana	144.00	145.00	170.00	170.00	7.50	7.00	.96	.97
IDAHO	155.00	146.00	190.00	175.00	7.90	7.90	.94	.96
Wyoming	127.00	130.00	160.00	170.00	7.00	7.00	.90	.97
Colorado	124.00	112.00	152.00	154.00	6.70	6.50	.76	.77
New Mexico	99.00	107.00	122.00	126.00	5.40	5.20	.68	.58
Arizona	128.00	130.00	180.00	175.00	5.80	6.00	.73	.69
Utah	145.00	135.00	180.00	150.00	6.50	6.50	.90	.90
Nevada	133.00	125.00	170.00	160.00	6.60	6.80	.90	.92
Washington	160.00	160.00	191.00	195.00	--	--	1.03	.99
Oregon	147.00	145.00	178.00	175.00	--	--	1.01	.95
California	148.00	152.00	190.00	195.00	--	--	1.00	.91
UNITED STATES	103.00	102.00	131.00	130.00	4.35	4.45	.78	.74

PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING WEEK OF JUNE 19-25, 1949 U. S.

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS	June Average	May 23-29	June 20-26	May 22-28	June 19-25
	1944-48 *	1948	1948	1949	1949
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT:					
United States	12,327	12,326	12,102	12,071	12,019
Mountain	481	412	480	408	474
Pacific	663	632	658	642	660
FAMILY WORKERS #					
United States	9,246	9,833	8,999	9,522	8,788
Mountain	303	283	301	271	286
Pacific	340	343	335	330	324
HIRED WORKERS ø					
United States	3,081	2,493	3,103	2,549	3,231
Mountain	178	129	179	137	188
Pacific	323	289	323	312	336

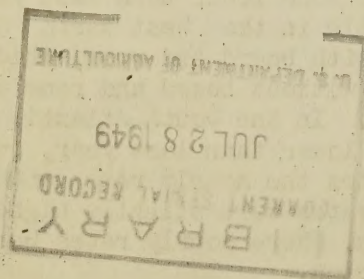
* Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month.

Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages.

ø Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

Boise, Idaho
July 18, 1949

Cecil C. Smith
Richard C. Ross
J. Howard Teter
Agricultural Statisticians



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FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - OCTOBER 1, 1949

BOISE, IDAHO, October 22, 1949:- The rate paid Idaho farm laborers with board and room on October 1 was \$148.00 compared with \$155.00 for the same month last year. The rate per month without board with house was \$176.00 compared with \$194.00 October 1 of last year. The daily wage rate for farm laborers without room or board on October 1 was \$7.80 compared with \$8.30 the same month last year.

The labor demand has increased considerably because of potato and sugar beet harvest. However, there was plenty of laborers available to fill all vacancies. In North Idaho farmers were busy seeding fall grains but plenty of labor was available. In Southwest Idaho sugar beets were being harvested and apples were being picked at a slow rate on account of price. Labor was also plentiful in this section.

UNITED STATES: Farm wages on October 1 continued their decline from last year at a slightly sharper rate than shown in previous quarters this year. The average of all wage rates, converted to an hourly basis, for the entire country was 59 cents this October compared to 62 cents a year ago, a decrease of 5 percent.

The number of persons at work on farms totaled 12,913,000 for the week of September 18-24. Farm employment was up 11 percent from a month earlier. The number of family workers increased about as usual while hired employment was up slightly in contrast to the usual small decline. Family employment and hired employment were each less than in September a year ago.

All types of farm wage rates for the United States on October 1 were less than a year earlier except per week without board or room. The decrease was largest for hourly rates without board and room, which are the time rates most commonly used for short-time seasonal jobs, except in the South. The wage rates of short-time seasonal workers are usually the first affected by increases in the supply of people looking for farm work.

The average of all wage rates decreased from last October in all regions except the West South Central. There was no change in this region. The largest percentage decrease, 11 percent, occurred in the East South Central States, but declines ranged from 6 to 9 percent in all other regions except the South Atlantic where it was 4 percent.

The seasonal increase in the overall average of all wage rates from July to October was only about half as much as a year ago. In regions with customary seasonal increases, the increases were less than usual while in the areas in which wage rates drop from July to October there were larger than usual declines. The increase in the South Atlantic States was the same as a year ago.

The seasonal increase in the number of family workers employed on farms was largest in the South Central regions. Family employment in late September was about 50 percent larger than a month earlier. This is about the usual increase that comes with the peak of cotton picking. In the South Atlantic and Pacific regions, family employment increased slightly, about the usual amount in the South Atlantic and a little more than average in the Pacific. In other regions the number of family workers declined slightly as usual. In comparison with a year ago, family employment was about the same or down slightly for all regions.

The increase over a month ago in hired workers was due largely to greater than usual seasonal increases in the South Central region, especially the East South Central group. Hired employment in these regions increased by a little more than a third. The number of hired workers increased seasonally by 15 percent in the East North Central States. The 5 percent increase in the Pacific States differed from the usual "no change." Hired farm employment was up from last year in the New England, East North Central, East South Central and Mountain Regions, but not enough to offset declines in other areas.

Rains delayed farm work on several days during the week of September 18-24 in the Northeast, Middle Atlantic, the far Southeast, and along the Gulf Coast. The additional moisture, however, was needed in most of these areas. Elsewhere generally fair weather, with warm days, cool nights, much sunshine, and low relative humidity, favored the maturity of most crops and was ideal for outside work. The chief complaint was the need of additional moisture to aid in preparation of the soil and to favor seeding and germination of small grains.

In the East and Northeast late fruit and truck crop harvests continued. The soybean harvest was under way in most areas. Sugar beet lifting had begun in a few areas, and was about ready to start in other producing areas. Many farmers were busy preparing land and seeding it to fall grains or legumes.

FARM EMPLOYMENT, JANUARY THROUGH SEPTEMBER, 1949 WITH COMPARISONS*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS	1944-48	1946	1947	1948	1949
<u>TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT</u>	T h o u s a n d s				
United States	11,046	11,064	11,150	11,080	10,732
Mountain	392	383	397	394	387
Pacific	585	583	596	597	576
<u>TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS#</u>					
United States	8,659	8,730	8,735	8,585	8,279
Mountain	277	276	280	273	263
Pacific	315	314	315	315	300
<u>TOTAL HIRED WORKERS</u>					
United States	2,387	2,334	2,415	2,495	2,453
Mountain	115	107	117	121	124
Pacific	270	269	281	282	276

*Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. #Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages.

FARM WAGES, SELECTED STATES, OCTOBER 1, 1948 AND OCTOBER 1, 1949

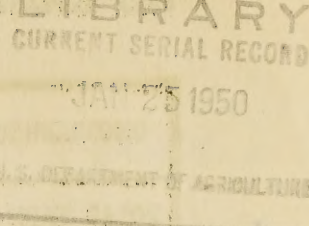
STATE	Per Month With Board		Per Month With House		Per Day Without Board		Per Hour Without Board	
	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949
D o l l a r s								
Montana	152.00	136.00	174.00	166.00	8.30	6.90	1.00	.95
IDAHO	155.00	148.00	194.00	176.00	8.30	7.80	.97	.94
Wyoming	127.00	125.00	167.00	165.00	7.10	6.50	.96	.92
Colorado	125.00	110.00	163.00	151.00	7.30	6.70	.84	.79
New Mexico	99.00	104.00	124.00	124.00	5.80	5.50	.72	.70
Arizona	130.00	130.00	175.00	170.00	6.10	5.80	.76	.69
Utah	146.00	130.00	176.00	150.00	7.00	6.70	.90	.87
Nevada	133.00	125.00	170.00	160.00	6.70	6.80	.90	.90
Washington *	164.00	155.00	193.00	191.00	--	--	1.07	.95
Oregon *	153.00	145.00	185.00	180.00	--	--	1.03	.98
California *	150.00	147.00	192.00	194.00	--	--	1.00	.91
UNITED STATES	104.00	99.00	126.00	122.00	4.95	4.80	.71	.65

*Certain wage rates are not estimated for some States because of unimportance.

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FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - JANUARY 1, 1950

BOISE, IDAHO, January 16, 1950: The farm wage rate in Idaho on January 1, with board and room was \$127.00 per month. This was \$13.00 below January 1 last year. The average wages paid per day without board or room was \$6.80 compared with \$7.50 on January 1 a year ago.

UNITED STATES: Farmers were paying workers an average of 58.7 cents per hour in cash wages on January 1, a decrease of 1.4 cents from a year earlier. The number of hired workers on farms in the week of December 18-24 was slightly less than last year. A small increase in family employment, however, kept total farm employment at 7,150,000, about the same as a year earlier.

The index of farm wage rates (seasonally adjusted) was 429 on January 1. This was between 2 and 3 percent less than a year earlier. The index, however, was up nearly 4 percent from October and at about the same point as on April 1 and July 1 of last year. The index for October 1 was down because of the somewhat less than usual seasonal increase in wage rates.

Individual rates paid to hired farm workers were consistently lower on January 1, 1950, than a year ago. They were also lower than 3 months earlier except for hourly rates without board or room. On October 1, hourly rates without board or room are heavily weighted by the South where wage rates are generally the lowest, while in January the Pacific region, where wages are highest, has a heavy weight.

Average hourly cash wages paid to hired farm workers were 1.6 cents higher on January 1 than on October 1. The hourly average composite is an approximation of average hourly cash earnings of hired farm workers. Each wage rate is converted to an hourly equivalent cash rate on the basis of number of workers receiving it. Since workers employed at monthly and weekly rates usually put in fewer hours work per month or week in January than in October, their hourly equivalent pay is higher. This raises the hourly composite even though wage rates decline.

Average hourly cash earnings on January 1 ranged from 90 cents in the Pacific Region to 41 cents in the East South Central States. Hourly earnings were also under 50 cents in the South Atlantic States. In the Mountain, New England and West North Central States earnings were more than 60 cents per hour.

Average total farm employment for the 12 month period, January through December, was down 3 percent from the 1948 level. The West Central States area, off 4 percent, had the greatest decrease. In contrast total employment in New England remained practically unchanged. Family and hired employment for the entire country each showed about the same percentage drop. The New England, Middle Atlantic, East North Central and Mountain regions had small increases in the average number of hired workers. But the West South Central area showed a decline of 8 percent in the average number of hired workers.

The number of family workers was down in all regions and the decline followed about the usual seasonal pattern with the Pacific States showing the greatest departure from the average decline.

(Over)

PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING WEEK OF DECEMBER 18-24, 1949

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS	December Average 1944-48*	November 21-27 1948	December 19-25 1948	November 20-26 1949	December 18-24 1949
T h o u s a n d s					
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT					
United States	7,397	9,047	7,155	9,003	7,150
Mountain	276	301	264	318	272
Pacific	412	486	398	483	411
TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS #					
United States	6,412	7,457	6,176	7,398	6,197
Mountain	216	218	207	227	211
Pacific	279	292	269	289	271
TOTAL HIRED WORKERS ø					
United States	985	1,590	979	1,605	953
Mountain	60	83	57	91	61
Pacific	133	194	129	194	140

* Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. # Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. ø Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGE RATES BY STATES JANUARY 1, 1949 & JANUARY 1, 1950*

STATE	PER MONTH				PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With Board and Room		With House		Without Board or Room		Without Board or Room	
	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950
D o l l a r s								
Montana	125.00	120.00	158.00	149.00	6.80	6.00	.90	.86
IDAHO	140.00	127.00	171.00	159.00	7.50	6.80	.92	.88
Wyoming	120.00	122.00	155.00	165.00	6.60	6.50	.90	.90
Colorado	114.00	104.00	151.00	144.00	6.40	6.00	.80	.77
New Mexico	93.00	101.00	121.00	120.00	5.40	5.20	.64	.64
Arizona	130.00	125.00	174.00	167.00	6.10	5.80	.74	.74
Utah	135.00	132.00	165.00	160.00	6.60	6.20	.90	.87
Nevada	130.00	120.00	160.00	159.00	6.60	6.80	.90	.90
Washington	145.00	137.00	185.00	171.00	8.30	7.90	1.04	1.03
Oregon	140.00	127.00	175.00	163.00	7.90	7.30	.95	.95
California	150.00	145.00	194.00	194.00	8.10	6.90	.94	.90
UNITED STATES	102.00	96.00	122.00	118.00	4.65	4.30	.77	.75

* Certain wage rates are not estimated because they are relatively unimportant.

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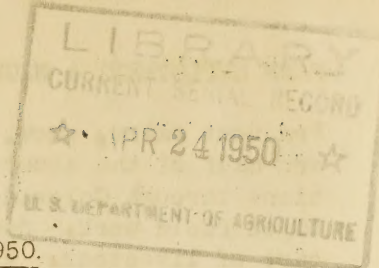
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FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - APRIL 1, 1950.

BOISE, IDAHO, April 17, 1950: The wage rate paid Idaho farm laborers with board and room on April 1 was \$138.00 compared with \$145.00 for the same month last year. The rate per month with house was \$166.00 compared with \$175.00 April 1 last year. The daily wage rate without board or room was \$7.40 compared with the April 1, 1949 average of \$7.50. The hourly rate was 89 cents this year compared with 91 cents a year ago.

UNITED STATES: Wage rates paid to hired farm workers on April 1 were about the same as a year ago. There was also very little change from January 1, after adjustment for seasonal movement. The seasonally adjusted wage rate index was 427 this month, 430 a year earlier and 429 on January 1, 1950 (1910-14 = 100).

Farm employment during the week of March 19-25 was slightly under a year earlier, although up seasonally from February. The number of persons at work on farms was 9,374,000 this year and 9,444,000 for the same week a year ago. The decrease was about equally divided between hired workers and operators and members of their families.

All types of wage rates for hired farm workers for the country as a whole were down slightly from a year ago. The weighted average of these rates on an hourly equivalent basis was 47.4 cents per hour. This is 0.3 cents less than last year. Proportionately, this change is not as large as for most individual rates, but it is accounted for by somewhat larger proportions of hired workers in high wage regions this year than a year ago. The slight decline from a year earlier is considerably smaller than in January of this year when the composite hourly wage rate dropped 1.4 cents from January 1949. The much smaller decline in April is probably due to the sharp drop in the April 1949 rates from the previous quarter in that year. This drop was probably partly due to the February 1949 break in prices received by farmers.

By regions, the various types of wage rates were down from a year ago in most cases. In a few instances there was no change but per day without board and room rates in the West South Central States and per hour without board or room rates in the East South Central States were slightly higher than a year ago. In both these areas last year the rates mentioned dropped from January to April while this year they held about steady.

Average wage rates for the country as a whole were generally lower on April 1 than on January 1. Weekly rates were the only exception. The hourly composite rate dropped sharply, as usual. This decrease is accounted for by the fact that hired farm workers on April 1 generally work more hours per month, per week, and per day than on January 1.

Rates used largely for non-seasonal workers, monthly, and weekly rates, were higher on April 1 than on January 1 for most regions. This is the usual pattern, since demand for these workers picks up in March and April when field work begins. The monthly rates though higher in most regions on April 1 than on January 1, were lower for the country as a whole, because of the larger proportions of workers in the South in April.

(Over)

Frequent rains, snow, and wet soils delayed farm work over the northern and eastern half of the country and to a lesser degree in other areas. Droughty conditions through Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Western Texas also delayed field work. Heavy snows in the Northwest caused extra hauling of feed and care of livestock. Field work was impracticable except in the far Southwest, southern portions of the West North Central States, and parts of the South Atlantic States.

Chores and the feeding and care of livestock were still the principal farm activities in the northern part of the country. The maple syrup harvest had commenced in the Northeast. Owing to the cold, stormy weather, farmers and ranchers in the North Central and Mountain States were busier than usual caring for the spring pig, calf, and lamb crops. Spring field work in the northern part of the country was possibly from one to two weeks behind schedule. Preparation of land for corn planting was fairly active in the eastern portion of the Great Plains as far north as Kansas.

FARM EMPLOYMENT: JANUARY THROUGH MARCH 1950, WITH COMPARISONS*

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS	1945-49	1947	1948	1949	1950
<u>TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT</u>	<u>T h o u s a n d s</u>				
United States	8,658	8,805	8,747	8,405	8,335
Mountain	288	292	289	277	276
Pacific	423	438	430	397	399
<u>TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS #</u>					
United States	7,293	7,420	7,353	7,050	6,993
Mountain	234	240	237	224	223
Pacific	283	291	281	265	265
<u>TOTAL HIRED WORKERS ø</u>					
United States	1,365	1,385	1,394	1,355	1,342
Mountain	54	52	52	53	53
Pacific	140	147	149	132	134

* Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. # Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. ø Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGES, SELECTED STATES, APRIL 1, 1949 AND APRIL 1, 1950

STATE	Per Month				Per Day		Per Hour	
	With Board and Room		With House		Without Board & Room		Without Board & Room	
	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950
	<u>D o l l a r s</u>							
Montana	140.00	132.00	170.00	161.00	6.80	6.40	.93	.88
IDAHO	145.00	138.00	175.00	166.00	7.50	7.40	.91	.89
Wyoming	125.00	115.00	160.00	160.00	6.30	6.40	.96	.89
Colorado	112.00	109.00	150.00	149.00	6.30	6.30	.80	.75
New Mexico	96.00	96.00	114.00	116.00	5.10	5.10	.64	.63
Arizona	130.00	130.00	175.00	170.00	6.20	5.70	.71	.65
Utah	140.00	130.00	170.00	165.00	6.30	6.30	.86	.86
Nevada	134.00	120.00	162.00	156.00	6.50	6.60	.88	.90
Washington*	157.00	148.00	189.00	178.00	--	--	1.04	.97
Oregon*	140.00	136.00	175.00	173.00	--	--	.95	.93
California*	150.00	145.00	195.00	190.00	--	--	.91	.88
UNITED STATES	97.00	92.00	116.00	113.00	4.25	4.15	.71	.70

* Certain wage rates are not estimated for some states because they are relatively unimportant.

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Box 1778, Boise, Idaho

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - JULY 1, 1950

BOISE, IDAHO, July 20, 1950: The Idaho average farm wage rate of \$145.00 per month (with board and room) was one dollar lower than a year ago. Wages per month with house were \$167.00, eight dollars below a year ago. The rate per day without board and room was \$7.50, or forty cents below a year ago. The straight hourly rate, without board or room, was 91 cents, five cents below a year ago.

UNITED STATES: Rates of pay for hired farm workers on July 1 averaged about the same as a year earlier. The seasonally adjusted index of farm wage rates (1910-14 = 100) was 429, the same as a year earlier and up 2 index points from April 1.

Farm employment is estimated at 11,692,000 for the week of June 18-24, which is 4 percent below a year earlier. Both family and hired employment were down from a year ago. Family employment was down seasonally from May while hired employment was up 31 percent, a slightly more than seasonal rise.

The average of all farm wages for the country as a whole on an equivalent hourly basis was 56 cents on July 1. This is the same as a year ago. Individual types of wage rates, however, were all down slightly. The hourly composite remained the same because of shifts between regions of the number of hired workers which are used as weights and because of rounding. The hourly composite rate for July 1 was up 9 cents from April 1 of this year, about the usual change. Farm wage rates ordinarily increase from April 1 to July 1 as need for hired labor increases. In addition, the proportion of workers paid the higher daily and hourly rates also increases as more seasonal labor is used.

A few changes from April 1 to July 1 in individual types of wage rates appear inconsistent with the general pattern but are not unusual. Wage rates per day with board increased a dollar because of an increase in the proportion of workers paid on this basis in the West North Central States and a sharp decrease in the South. The large increase in hourly rates with house is also due to a difference in the pattern of employment. In April, a large proportion of the workers receiving this type of rate are in the South, but by July the rate becomes important in the high wage area of the Pacific Coast. By regions, the changes in wage rates from last year and from the previous quarter generally had the same movement as the United States averages. Individual types of wage rates were the same or slightly lower than a year earlier in all regions except in the South Atlantic States where rates per hour without board or room were generally higher.

East of the Rocky Mountains crops made good growth. In the Middle West, adequate to excessive rainfall interrupted harvesting and cultivation. Frequent rains in much of the Northwest slowed some field operations. Showers during the middle of the week over the main Cotton Belt retarded cultivation and were favorable to boll weevils.

Harvest of hay and cultivating and thinning sugar beets were important activities on many farms and ranches in the Mountain States. The berry and cherry harvests and lettuce cutting and apple thinning were under way in Idaho. Melons were being harvested in Arizona. Lambing was nearly complete in Utah.

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES

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FARM WAGE RATES BY STATES JULY 1, 1949 AND JULY 1, 1950

STATE	PER MONTH		PER MONTH		PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With Board and Room		With House		Without Room or Board		Without Room or Board	
	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950
	D o l l a r s							
Montana	145.00	140.00	170.00	157.00	7.00	6.80	.97	.90
IDAHO	146.00	145.00	175.00	167.00	7.90	7.50	.96	.91
Wyoming	130.00	118.00	170.00	165.00	7.00	6.20	.97	.88
Colorado	112.00	110.00	154.00	150.00	6.50	6.50	.77	.76
New Mexico	107.00	90.00	126.00	115.00	5.20	5.00	.58	.57
Arizona	130.00	130.00	175.00	170.00	6.00	5.50	.69	.65
Utah	135.00	140.00	150.00	160.00	6.50	6.80	.90	.87
Nevada	125.00	124.00	160.00	150.00	6.75	7.00	.92	.90
Washington	160.00	154.00	195.00	183.00	--	--	.99	.94
Oregon	145.00	145.00	175.00	175.00	--	--	.95	.95
California	152.00	150.00	195.00	187.00	--	--	.91	.89
UNITED STATES	102.00	98.00	130.00	126.00	4.45	4.40	.74	.73

PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING WEEK OF JUNE 18-24, 1950

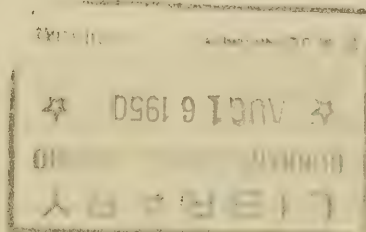
GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS	June Average 1945-49*	May 22-28, 1949	June 19-25, 1949	May 21-27, 1950	June 18-24, 1950
	T h o u s a n d s				
<u>TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT:</u>					
United States	12,414	11,936	12,140	11,525	11,692
Mountain	488	429	478	417	480
Pacific	665	642	660	616	631
<u>FAMILY WORKERS: #</u>					
United States	9,319	9,387	8,909	9,149	8,586
Mountain	306	292	290	287	293
Pacific	336	330	324	328	318
<u>HIRED WORKERS: ø</u>					
United States	3,095	2,549	3,231	2,376	3,106
Mountain	182	137	188	130	187
Pacific	329	312	336	288	313

* Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month.

Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages.

ø Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

Boise, Idaho
July 20, 1950



Cecil C. Smith
Richard C. Ross
J. Howard Teter
Agricultural Statisticians

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES OCTOBER 1, 1950

BOISE, IDAHO, October 1, 1950:- The rate paid Idaho farm laborers with board and room on October 1, was \$155.00, compared with \$148.00 for the same month last year. The rate per month with house was \$180.00 compared with \$176.00 on October 1 of last year. The daily wage rate for farm laborers without board or room was \$8.50 compared with \$7.80 last year. Hourly wages at 94 cents per hour, without board or room, did not change.

The labor demand was quite heavy over the state. Fall grains were being seeded in the north, but labor demand there was mostly from industry. In the southwest, harvest of many crops; potatoes, onions, sweet corn seed, beans, lettuce, hops, fruit, and some sugar beets caused a heavy demand and some shortage, while in the east the main sugar beet and potato harvest was getting underway with local and imported help adequately meeting the situation.

UNITED STATES:- Wage rates for hired farm workers averaged 59 cents per hour about the first of October, 2 cents higher than a year earlier. There were about a million fewer persons working on farms during the week of September 17-23, than a year ago. Numbers of family and hired workers decreased at about the same rate. These decreases were largely owing to reduced labor requirements for harvesting the small cotton crop. Changes in timing of some crop operations, and in weather, were also factors.

The index of farm wage rates was 427 percent of its 1910-14 base about October 1, compared to 414 percent a year earlier. All types of wage rates were slightly higher than a year ago. Increases amounted to \$3.00 for monthly rates, 10 to 20 cents for daily rates, and 2 cents for hourly rates. Increases were slightly larger than the national average in the Middle Atlantic, North Central & Mountain Regions, while in the West South Central Region there was little change from last year.

The average of all wage rates increased seasonally from July 1 to October 1. Consequently, there was practically no change in the seasonally adjusted index of farm wage rates during the past quarter. Individual types of wage rates generally showed the usual movements. Hourly rates with house moved upward owing to the increase in number of workers employed at this rate in the high wage areas. On the other hand, hourly rates without board or room dropped because of the usual increase in the number employed in the South at this time of year.

For the country as a whole, hourly wage rates without board or room averaged 66 cents per hour. Hourly rates were highest in North Dakota and Montana where delayed harvest operations led to unusually heavy demand for labor and in Washington and Oregon, the States in which wage rates are usually highest. The average in these 4 States was \$1.00 per hour for workers paid hourly rates. The lowest hourly rates were in the South where hired farm workers were paid from 40 cents per hour in South Carolina to 43 and 44 cents per hour in Mississippi and Alabama. Hourly rates were also less than 50 cents in Georgia, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Louisiana.

The number of persons at work on farms during the week of September 17-23 continued the recent downward trend. In all regions there were fewer persons employed on farms, with the largest decreases occurring in the South, Central, and Pacific States. For family workers the largest decreases were in the South.

(Over)

Decreases in numbers of hired workers were largest in the East North Central, South Central and Pacific Regions. The reduction in number of farm workers in the South was largely due to a much smaller cotton crop which has reduced the need for cotton pickers and also to rainy weather in parts of Texas. In the Pacific Region, the number of hired farm workers was less, partly because of timing in crop operations. Grape harvest reached a peak somewhat earlier than usual while harvest of cotton, tomatoes for canning, beans, and rice was starting later than a year ago.

The small grain harvest season was late in many of the Mountain States and threshing and combining continued to be a major activity in Montana and in the higher areas of Wyoming and Idaho. The potato and sugar beet harvests were getting well under way in Colorado, and were starting in Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana. Winter wheat seeding was about complete in New Mexico and was active in the other winter wheat States. Dry bean harvest and threshing was widespread. In Arizona and New Mexico cotton picking was in full swing. Arizona truck crop farmers were busy preparing land, planting, and cultivating fall vegetables.

U.S. FARM EMPLOYMENT, JANUARY THROUGH SEPTEMBER, 1950 WITH COMPARISONS*
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED PER MONTH

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	1945-49	1947	1948	1949	1950	
<u>TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT</u>		T h o u s a n d s				
United States	11,300	11,507	11,434	11,066	10,688	
Mountain	422	432	429	418	408	
Pacific	587	596	597	576	556	
<u>TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS#</u>						
United States	8,780	8,960	8,805	8,481	8,226	
Mountain	293	302	295	280	276	
Pacific	313	315	315	300	295	
<u>TOTAL HIRED WORKERS</u>						
United States	2,520	2,547	2,629	2,585	2,462	
Mountain	129	130	134	138	132	
Pacific	274	281	282	276	261	

*Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. #Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages.

FARM WAGES, SELECTED STATES, OCTOBER 1, 1949 AND OCTOBER 1, 1950

STATE	Per Month With Board		Per Month With House		Per Day Without Board		Per Hour Without Board	
	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950
D o l l a r s								
Montana	136.00	148.00	166.00	174.00	6.90	8.50	.95	1.00
IDAHO	148.00	155.00	176.00	180.00	7.80	8.50	.94	.94
Wyoming	125.00	115.00	165.00	165.00	6.50	6.80	.92	.99
Colorado	110.00	123.00	151.00	160.00	6.70	6.90	.79	.81
New Mexico	104.00	96.00	124.00	118.00	5.50	5.50	.70	.70
Arizona	130.00	130.00	170.00	170.00	5.80	6.00	.69	.70
Utah	130.00	145.00	150.00	165.00	6.70	6.80	.87	.95
Nevada	125.00	135.00	160.00	160.00	6.80	7.00	.90	.95
Washington *	155.00	159.00	191.00	193.00	--	--	.95	1.00
Oregon *	145.00	148.00	180.00	178.00	--	--	.98	1.00
California *	147.00	152.00	194.00	194.00	--	--	.92	.98
UNITED STATES	99.00	102.00	120.00	123.00	4.75	4.95	.64	.66

* Certain wage rates are not estimated for some States because of unimportance.

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FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - JULY 1, 1951

BOISE, IDAHO, July 17, 1951:- In Idaho the average farm wage rate of \$168.00 per month (with board & room) was \$23.00 per month higher than wages paid last year. Wages with house were \$199.00 per month this year compared with \$167.00 last year. Wages on per day basis were up from \$7.50 last year to \$8.40 per day in 1951. Wage rates per hour without board were \$1.01 or 10 cents above last year.

UNITED STATES: Wage rates paid hired farm workers on July 1 were ^{up} 12 percent from a year ago. Farm Wage rates which rose in the two preceding quarters, held about the same on a seasonally adjusted basis from April 1 to July 1.

There were 360,000 fewer persons at work on farms the week of June 17-23 than a year earlier, a decrease of 3 percent. The number of family workers was down 4 percent, and hired workers 1 percent. People at work on farms totalled 11,334,000 compared with the 1945-49 average of 12,414,000.

The index of farm wage rates, adjusted for seasonal variation, was 475 on July 1 Compared with 425 a year ago. All the increase from last year has come since October 1950, about half of it between October 1 and January 1 and the remainder from January 1 to April 1.

Individual types of rates increased about equally from a year ago except the monthly rates and rates per week with board and room. These rates, generally used for workers hired for year-round work, advanced more than other types.

Increases from a year ago in farm wage rates varied by regions from 11 to 16 percent, as measured by the average of all types of rates. The largest increases occurred in the New England, East North Central and West South Central States and the smallest in the West North Central and the Pacific States.

Heavy rains covering most of Kansas and Missouri during the survey week interrupted and delayed most field work in these areas. Wheat harvest in Kansas has proceeded very slowly. Continued wet weather has broken the orderly progress of harvest from south to north. The crop will be ready for harvest in most parts of the State at about the same time, which will place a heavy load on the supply of machines and labor available. An area from the northeast corner of Nebraska to Lake Superior including most of Minnesota and northern Wisconsin also had heavy rains during the week of the survey. The remaining parts of the North Central Region and parts of the Northeast also had heavy showers which interrupted field work at times. Rainfall was light in most of the South and West except in parts of Alabama, Florida, Tennessee, and Montana.

Farm work generally made good progress in most parts of the country. Most crops were planted and cultivation was under way. Small grain harvest was proceeding well in Texas and southern Oklahoma and had reached Virginia and Kentucky, with some barley being harvested in Pennsylvania. Corn cultivation and hay making in the North Central and Northeastern States were going slowly because of frequent rains.

Cotton chopping was slowed by rains in Missouri, Arkansas, and parts of Tennessee. Fields were becoming grassy and dry weather was needed here and in north-central and northeastern parts of Texas to control weeds. In most other areas, cultivation of cotton was proceeding satisfactorily.

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES

FARM WAGE RATES BY STATES JULY 1, 1950 AND JULY 1, 1951

STATE	PER MONTH		PER MONTH		PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With	Board	With		Without Room		Without Room	
	and	Room	House		or Board		or Board	
	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951
	D o l l a r s							
Montana	140.00	167.00	157.00	192.00	6.80	7.80	.90	.98
IDAHO	145.00	168.00	167.00	199.00	7.50	8.40	.91	1.01
Wyoming	118.00	139.00	165.00	180.00	6.20	7.00	.88	1.00
Colorado	110.00	129.00	150.00	165.00	6.50	7.00	.76	.84
New Mexico	90.00	122.00	115.00	140.00	5.00	6.40	.57	.72
Arizona	130.00	140.00	170.00	190.00	5.50	6.30	.65	.72
Utah	140.00	160.00	160.00	180.00	6.80	7.50	.87	.99
Nevada	124.00	145.00	150.00	175.00	7.00	7.40	.90	1.02
Washington	154.00	174.00	183.00	220.00	--	--	.94	1.05
Oregon	145.00	164.00	175.00	199.00	--	--	.95	1.07
California	150.00	160.00	187.00	208.00	--	--	.89	.98
UNITED STATES	98.00	115.00	184.00	146.00	4.40	4.95	.73	.82

PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING WEEK OF JUNE 17-23, 1951

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS	June average 1945-49 *	May 21-27 1950	June 18-24 1950	May 20-26 1951	June 17-23 1951
	T h o u s a n d s				
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT:					
United States	12,414	11,525	11,692	11,010	11,334
Mountain	488	417	480	421	459
Pacific	665	616	631	589	632
FAMILY WORKERS: #					
United States	9,319	9,149	8,586	8,747	8,274
Mountain	306	287	293	281	278
Pacific	336	328	318	320	304
HIRED WORKERS: ϕ					
United States	3,095	2,376	3,106	2,263	3,060
Mountain	182	130	187	140	181
Pacific	329	288	313	269	328

* Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month.

Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages.

ϕ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

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FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - JANUARY 1, 1952

IDAHO: The farm wage rate in Idaho on January 1 was \$165.00 per month with board and room, compared with \$146.00 per month a year ago and \$165.00, which was the annual average rate for 1951. According to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for Idaho the average wages paid per day without board or room was \$8.30 this year compared with \$7.60 a year ago on January 1. The annual average rate for 1951 was \$8.40.

UNITED STATES: A total of 6,524,000 people were working on farms during the week of December 23-29, as farm work reached its seasonal low point. This is 4 percent below the comparable week in 1950 and is the lowest estimate of record. There were 4 percent fewer family workers than a year ago while hired workers numbered 6 percent less than 1950. Total Employment dropped a fourth from the preceding month.

Farm wage rates increased 5 percent from October 1 to January 1, after holding about steady since April. The seasonally adjusted wage rate index on January 1 was 498, up 11 percent from a year earlier.

Farm wage rates varied from about steady to 9 percent above 3 months earlier by regions, when measured by the seasonally adjusted index. The largest increase occurred in the West South Central States. Increases ranged from 3 to 5 percent in the North Central, Mountain, and Pacific States. In comparison with a year ago, farm wage rates were up in all regions with the smallest increase of 7 percent in the Pacific States. The South Atlantic States reported the greatest rise in wage rates, 12 percent.

Individual types of farm wage rates were all higher than a year earlier for the country as a whole. Increases were fairly uniform, with hourly rates without board and room showing the smallest increase. However, changes from October 1 in individual kinds of rates varied considerably because of seasonal factors. Monthly and daily rates with house and hourly rates without board and room were up. The hourly rate was up sharply because of the greater extent to which the rate was used in the higher rate areas, especially the Pacific States. Other types of rates were about the same as on October 1 or slightly less, except for hourly rates with house. Hourly rates with house usually average lower in January than in October because larger proportions of workers are paid at this rate in the lower wage rate areas in January.

Hired farm workers were averaging about 69 cents per hour in cash wages on January 1 as indicated by the composite rate per hour. This rate is the average of all types of rates converted to hourly equivalents weighted by the estimated number of workers employed at each rate. The average cash earnings per hour in January were about 6 cents higher than a year ago. They were up 3 cents from October 1 but this change is not as significant as the change from a year earlier. The average hourly composite for the entire country by quarters is affected by a number of seasonal factors such as the proportion of hired workers employed in various regions, the proportion of workers employed at the different types of rates and the average time worked per day.

Wage rates for individual States vary widely. The per hour without board and room rate which is reported for all States ranged from 48 cents to \$1.13 per hour. South Carolina and Alabama were the only States where these rates averaged less than 50 cents per hour. The hourly rate averaged \$1.00 or more in 12 States, most of them in the West. Per month rates with house averaged \$200 or more in the 3 Pacific States and in Idaho. They were under \$130 in only 3 States.

For 1951 as a whole, farm wage rates were up 11 percent from 1950. Monthly rates with house averaged \$137 for the year, day rates without board and room averaged \$5.00, per hour rates without board and room averaged 77 cents, and average hourly earnings 62.5 cents (the average of all types of rates).

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FARM EMPLOYMENT & WAGE RATES

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PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING WEEK OF DECEMBER 23-29, 1951

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	December Average *1945-49	November 19-25 1950	December 24-30 1950	November 18-24 1951	December 23-29 1951
Thousands					
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT					
United States	7,353	8,940	6,782	8,873	6,524
Mountain	275	326	260	327	258
Pacific	411	445	378	452	371
TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS **					
United States	6,370	7,293	5,897	7,216	5,688
Mountain	215	214	199	213	196
Pacific	275	279	264	275	255
TOTAL HIRED WORKERS #					
United States	983	1,647	885	1,657	836
Mountain	60	112	61	114	62
Pacific	136	166	114	177	116

* Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. ** Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. # Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGE RATES BY STATES JANUARY 1, 1951 & JANUARY 1, 1952 *

STATE	PER MONTH				PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With Board and Room		With House		Without Board or Room		Without Board or Room	
	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952
D o l l a r s								
Montana	134.00	147.00	165.00	175.00	6.80	7.30	.93	1.00
IDAHO	146.00	165.00	188.00	200.00	7.60	8.30	.95	1.01
Wyoming	134.00	142.00	176.00	190.00	6.60	7.70	.95	1.02
Colorado	118.00	131.00	154.00	171.00	6.40	7.20	.83	.89
New Mexico	106.00	116.00	129.00	146.00	5.00	5.10	.65	.68
Arizona	130.00	135.00	180.00	190.00	5.90	7.00	.72	.73
Utah	140.00	169.00	160.00	180.00	6.80	7.20	.95	1.00
Nevada	135.00	145.00	160.00	171.00	6.80	7.40	.95	1.00
Washington	144.00	172.00	188.00	211.00	-	-	1.06	1.13
Oregon	146.00	160.00	180.00	200.00	-	-	1.02	1.09
California	158.00	164.00	200.00	219.00	-	-	.95	1.02
UNITED STATES	105.00	113.00	127.00	141.00	4.65	5.20	.79	.86

* Certain wage rates are not estimated because they are relatively unimportant.

Clarence E. White
Agricultural Statistician
Acting in Charge

Cecil C Smith
Agricultural Statistician

Issued at Boise, Idaho,
January 18, 1952

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FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - April 1, 1952

IDAHO: Idaho farm laborers received an average of \$169.00 per month with board and room, compared with \$161.00 last year according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for Idaho. The rate per month with house averaged \$208.00, compared with \$195.00 last April 1, while the daily wage rate without board or room amounted to \$8.50 compared with \$8.00 a year ago. The hourly rate was up 5¢ from a year ago, amounting to \$1.04 per hour. Average rates for each type of farm laborer was at an all time high on April 1. Although good farm labor is in short supply, present indications are that the number of laborers available for the 1952 crop will not be much different than for the 1951 season.

UNITED STATES: With a total of 8,790,000 people engaged in farm work during the week of March 23-29, farm employment showed about the usual seasonal increase from February. The total was 200,000 below a year ago. The number of family workers employed increased 10 percent from February to March, while the number of hired workers rose more than a third. Family workers totaled 7,133,000 and hired workers 1,657,000.

The overall level of farm wage rates was 2 percent above the January 1 level. The seasonally adjusted index reached a new high of 510, up 6 percent from a year earlier.

The level of farm wage rates moved up for all regions except the Pacific from January 1 to April 1. Increases amounted to 1 percent in the West South Central and Mountain States and ranged from 2 to 4 percent for all other regions with increases. The seasonally adjusted index used to measure overall change is based on the hourly composite rate and adjusted for the usual seasonal change. The hourly composite is an average of all rates, with rates other than per hour converted to hourly equivalents, and weighted by the relative importance of each rate.

National averages for individual types of wage rates were practically all slightly lower on April 1 than three months earlier, although they were up in most States. This is a usual change since the number of hired workers increases more at this season in the lower wage rate areas in the South than in other parts of the country. The national averages take into account the number of workers employed at various rates.

The change in the hourly composite rate is seasonal. This average rate usually drops more than the individual rates from January to April. Average hours worked per month, per week or per day, which are used to compute hourly equivalent rates, increase from January to April. Even though the monthly, weekly and daily rates increase the hourly equivalent may be less in April than in January because of hours worked. This is true of New England where each type of wage rate increased from January to April yet the composite rate was lower.

Monthly and weekly rates for States and regions were generally up from January. These rates are the ones most commonly used to hire regular year-round workers for whom there is the greater demand at this season. Seasonal workers who are used to greater extent during harvest time are usually hired at daily and hourly rates. The daily and hourly rates were in most cases lower than in January or about the same in the South and in the Pacific States. For all other regions they are generally higher.

Monthly rates with a house furnished without cost averaged \$200 or more in all the Pacific States and in Idaho and Arizona. These rates were lowest in Maine, Ohio, Indiana and Missouri. Per day rates without board or room ranged from \$6 to \$8 or more in most States except in the South. In most southern States, this rate averaged less than \$5 and under \$4 in South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi. Rates per hour without board or room averaged \$1 or more in 15 States. They were highest in the southern New England States, most of the West North Central States, the northern Mountain States and in all the Pacific States.

(Over)

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES

- 2 -

Farm work was generally getting off to a slow start in most parts of the country in late March. In northern New England and New York and in the States along the Canadian border, the ground was still covered with snow in most areas. In most of the rest of the country, cold wet weather had delayed field work. The weather during the survey week was generally fair and warmer in most parts of the country. The only areas with heavy rainfall were the Gulf Coast region and parts of Florida. Wherever possible farmers were plowing and planting spring crops.

FARM EMPLOYMENT: JANUARY THROUGH MARCH 1952, WITH COMPARISONS*

Geographic Divisions	1945-49	1949	1950	1951	1952
T h o u s a n d s					
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT					
United States	8,658	8,405	8,335	7,965	7,768
Mountain	288	277	276	269	260
Pacific	423	397	399	393	386
TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS #					
United States	7,293	7,050	6,993	6,689	6,510
Mountain	234	224	223	216	209
Pacific	283	265	265	255	249
TOTAL HIRED WORKERS ø					
United States	1,365	1,355	1,342	1,276	1,258
Mountain	54	53	53	53	51
Pacific	140	132	134	138	137

* Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. # Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. ø Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGES, SELECTED STATES, APRIL 1, 1951 AND APRIL 1, 1952*

STATE	Per Month				Per Day		Per Hour	
	With Board & Room		With House		Without Board & Room		Without Board & Room	
	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952
D o l l a r s								
Mont.	154.00	160.00	184.00	196.00	7.40	8.30	.98	1.00
IDAHO	161.00	169.00	195.00	208.00	8.00	8.50	.99	1.04
Wya.	138.00	143.00	175.00	190.00	7.00	7.60	1.00	1.04
Colo.	125.00	131.00	164.00	177.00	6.50	7.30	.80	.89
N. Mex.	119.00	110.00	142.00	139.00	5.70	6.20	.72	.71
Ariz.	145.00	145.00	195.00	200.00	6.40	6.80	.75	.80
Utah	165.00	159.00	185.00	184.00	7.50	7.80	.98	1.00
Nevada	150.00	150.00	175.00	175.00	7.10	7.50	1.00	1.00
Wash.	172.00	183.00	201.00	226.00	--	--	1.06	1.13
Oreg.	157.00	170.00	186.00	203.00	--	--	1.07	1.10
Calif.	158.00	164.00	204.00	219.00	--	--	.96	1.02
U. S.	107.00	114.00	128.00	138.00	4.70	5.00	.78	.83

* Certain wage rates are not estimated because they are relatively unimportant.

Issued Boise, Idaho, April 14, 1952

Clarence E. White
Agricultural Statistician, in Charge

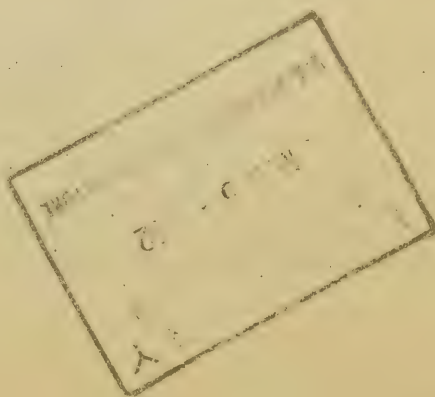
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Agricultural Statistician

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FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - July 1, 1952

IDAHO: Farm laborers in Idaho were paid an average of \$173.00 per month with board and room, compared with \$168.00 last year, according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for Idaho. The rate per month with house averaged \$209.00 as against \$199.00 last July 1, while the daily wage rate without board or room amounted to \$8.70, which is 30¢ higher than a year ago. The hourly rate was 5¢ above a year ago, amounting to \$1.06 per hour. All of the above rates were at an all-time high. A seasonal lull continued in agriculture throughout the State, but irrigators and steady farm hands were still needed in southern Idaho.

UNITED STATES: Farm wage rates on about July 1 were up 6 percent from a year earlier. Wage rates were higher than on April 1 of this year but the increase was slightly less than usual.

There were about 11 million people working on farms during the week of June 22-28. This was about 300,000 less than a year earlier. Most of the decrease was in family workers.

All types of wage rates were up from last year by about the same percentage for the country as a whole except weekly rates without board or room which were up more than other rates. With the exception of the monthly rates in New England, all types of rates were also higher by regions. Based on the average of all rates, increases varied somewhat by regions with the larger increases in the East and West North Central and the Mountain States.

Farm wage rates for the United States on July 1 were up from April 1, which is the usual seasonal pattern. As more seasonal labor, which is usually paid at higher rates, is hired rates tend to increase. The increase this month, however, was not quite as much as is usually expected.

Per hour without board or room rates averaged \$.87 for the country as a whole. This rate averaged slightly over \$1.00 in the West North Central and Pacific States and above \$.90 in all regions except those in the South. In the 3 southern regions, the hourly rate averages ranged from \$.54 to \$.64. Rates per day without board or room averaged \$5.20 and ranged from \$4.00 in the East South Central States to \$8.00 in the West North Central States. The high rate in the West North Central States is partly accounted for by the wage rates paid in the wheat harvest.

Farm work generally made good progress during June. Weather was favorable and permitted farmers to complete jobs on schedule. The week of June 22-28 was generally hot. Thundershowers in the latter part of the week brought heavy rainfall to parts of the upper Mississippi Valley and southeastward to the Middle Appalachian Region. These rains, however, had little or no effect on farm employment.

Wheat harvest was in progress during the survey week in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. About 50 percent of the Kansas wheat crop was harvested during this week. Small grain harvest was also in progress in much of the South and was starting in the southern parts of the East North Central States. Cultivation and hoeing of row crops was a major operation in most parts of the country. Cotton chopping and hoeing were well along with most fields clean. Dry weather helped farmers get cotton chopping done with a minimum of labor supply problems. Corn and soybean cultivation in the Midwest also made good progress. Farmers were putting up hay in all parts of the country with very little trouble with rain.

(Over)

FARM EMPLOYMENT & WAGE RATES

- 2 -

Harvest, other than small grains, consisted mostly of fruits and vegetables. Cherries were being picked in many parts of the country. Citrus harvest in Florida was nearly over but still in progress in California. Plums, apricots and early peaches were being picked in California. Peaches were also being picked in Georgia. Potatoes, tomatoes, and melons were being harvested in many areas. Harvest of green peas for canning was in progress in some of the northern States. Farmers in the southern part of the tobacco area were cutting tobacco.

The number of people working on farms during the survey week in June was 3 percent less than a year earlier for the entire country.

FARM EMPLOYMENT: JANUARY THROUGH JUNE 1952, WITH COMPARISONS*

	1945-49	1949	1950	1951	1952
	Thousands				
<u>TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT</u>					
United States	10,296	10,035	9,808	9,435	9,212
Mountain	365	358	356	345	338
Pacific	517	501	490	480	474
<u>TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS #</u>					
United States	8,358	8,059	7,905	7,600	7,405
Mountain	273	261	260	251	248
Pacific	308	293	291	281	277
<u>TOTAL HIRED WORKERS ø</u>					
United States	1,938	1,976	1,903	1,835	1,807
Mountain	92	97	96	94	90
Pacific	209	208	199	199	197

* Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. # Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. ø Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGES, SELECTED STATES, JULY 1, 1951 AND JULY 1, 1952*

STATE	Per Month				Per Day		Per Hour	
	With Board & Room		With House		Without Board & Room		Without Board & Room	
	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952
	Dollars							
Mont.	167.00	167.00	192.00	205.00	7.80	8.80	.98	1.10
Idaho	168.00	173.00	199.00	209.00	8.40	8.70	1.01	1.06
Wyo.	139.00	154.00	180.00	199.00	7.00	7.90	1.00	1.21
Colo.	129.00	150.00	165.00	189.00	7.00	7.80	.84	.91
N.Mex.	122.00	115.00	140.00	140.00	6.40	5.90	.72	.69
Ariz.	140.00	140.00	190.00	205.00	6.30	7.00	.72	.75
Utah	160.00	170.00	180.00	190.00	7.50	7.80	.99	1.05
Nev.	145.00	160.00	175.00	190.00	7.40	7.70	1.02	1.05
Wash.	174.00	186.00	220.00	221.00	--	--	1.05	1.10
Ore.	164.00	180.00	199.00	205.00	--	--	1.07	1.10
Calif.	160.00	175.00	208.00	230.00	--	--	.98	1.03
U. S.	115.00	121.00	146.00	155.00	4.95	5.20	.82	.87

* Certain wage rates are not estimated for some States because they are relatively unimportant.

Issued Boise, Idaho
July 16, 1952

J. Howard Teter
Agricultural Statistician
Acting in Charge

Cecil C. Smith
Agricultural Statistician

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Agricultural Estimates
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FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - OCTOBER 1, 1952

IDAHO: The rate paid Idaho farm laborers with board and room on October 1, was \$179. compared with \$168. for the same month last year and \$155. in October 1950, according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for Idaho. The rate per month with house was \$219.00, compared with \$200.00 on October 1, of last year. The daily wage rate for farm laborers, without board or room was \$9.50, one dollar above a year ago. Hourly wages at \$1.11 per hour were up 10¢ per hour since last year. The index of composite rates was 517 as compared with 470 a year ago.

Labor demand showed the usual shift from the southwest to the south-central and east-urn areas where the potato harvest was gaining momentum. The prune, hop and peach harvest had been completed in the southwest, but apples, onions and sweet corn remain to be harvested and some actual labor shortages exist. Green corn harvest and canning was completed in the Twin Falls area, but haying continued in many places. Sugar beet harvest was expected to begin in the first and second weeks of October.

UNITED STATES: A total of 13,252,000 people were working on farms during the week of September 21-27. Of this total, 9,543,000 were farm operators and unpaid members of their families and 3,709,000 were hired workers. There were about 100,000 more hired workers than a year ago but a decrease of nearly 200,000 family workers kept the total under last year. About 1.8 million more people were working on farms than a month earlier--most of them in the South where cotton picking was at about its peak.

Farm wage rates on October 1 were up 4 percent from July 1 -- less than seasonally-- as the average of all rates increased from 66.4 cents to 68.8 cents per hour. Farm wage rates on October 1 were 5 percent above a year earlier and on July 1, were 6 percent above the July rates last year.

All types of wage rates in October were up from a year earlier. The amount of increase varied with the largest increases in the monthly rates, the hourly rates and the per day with house rate. Up least were the rates per week without board or room, per day with board and room, and per day without board or room. By regions the largest increases were in the West South Central and Mountain States. The smallest increases were in the South Atlantic and East South Central States.

Regional changes in wage rates from July 1 are difficult to measure because of different seasonal patterns. However, if the seasonally adjusted index is used, the level of wage rates on October 1 was down from July in the North Central States and up in the New England, Middle Atlantic, West South Central, and Pacific States.

Per day rates without board and room ranged from \$3.80 in South Carolina to \$9.50 in Idaho, the national average being \$5.60. These rates were less than \$5.00 in only eight States. Per hour rates without board or room averaged \$0.76 for the country as a whole but averaged \$1.00 or more in 19 individual States. States with an average rate of \$1.00 or more per hour were mainly in the West North Central, Mountain, and Pacific regions and in southern New England.

Favorable weather permitted farmers to work steadily during the week of September 21-27 in most parts of the country. The southern Atlantic Coast areas had some heavy rains as did scattered areas of the East North Central States. For most of the country the weather was sunny and warm.

(Over)

In the small grain areas, practically all farmers had completed harvest. Seeding winter wheat was under way in all areas growing the crop but was being delayed in some places because of dry soils. Some Texas and Kansas farmers were seeding in dust and relying on rain later to germinate the seed. Southern farmers were also seeding other grains and cover crops. Rice was being harvested by growers in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

The number of family workers was less than a year earlier in all regions except the South Atlantic States. The largest decreases were in the South Central States and amounted to 4 percent.

FARM EMPLOYMENT: JANUARY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1952, WITH COMPARISONS*

	1945-49	1949	1950	1951	1952
	T h o u s a n d s				
<u>TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT</u>					
United States	11,300	11,066	10,688	10,350	10,101
Mountain	422	418	408	394	388
Pacific	587	576	556	542	541
<u>TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS #</u>					
United States	8,780	8,481	8,226	7,971	7,771
Mountain	293	280	276	266	264
Pacific	313	300	295	286	283
<u>TOTAL HIRED WORKERS ø</u>					
United States	2,520	2,585	2,462	2,379	2,330
Mountain	129	138	132	128	124
Pacific	274	276	261	256	258

* Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. # Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. ø Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

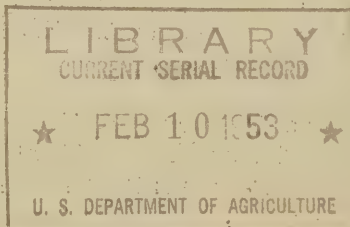
FARM WAGES, SELECTED STATES, OCTOBER 1, 1951 AND OCTOBER 1, 1952*

STATE	Per Month				Per Day		Per Hour	
	With Board & Room		With House		Without Board & Room		Without Board & Room	
	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952
	D o l l a r s							
Mont.	163.00	171.00	190.00	202.00	9.00	9.00	1.09	1.21
IDAHO	168.00	179.00	200.00	219.00	8.50	9.50	1.01	1.11
Wyo.	140.00	147.00	180.00	207.00	7.30	8.00	1.05	1.05
Colo.	136.00	146.00	171.00	192.00	7.60	8.20	.89	.99
N. Mex.	120.00	120.00	140.00	160.00	6.00	6.00	.74	.80
Ariz.	140.00	145.00	195.00	205.00	6.90	7.40	.72	.80
Utah	170.00	180.00	190.00	210.00	8.00	8.40	1.00	1.10
Nev.	150.00	160.00	180.00	190.00	7.80	7.80	1.00	1.05
Wash.	180.00	192.00	221.00	224.00	--	--	1.11	1.13
Oreg.	164.00	180.00	199.00	208.00	--	--	1.07	1.10
Calif.	160.00	176.00	210.00	228.00	--	--	1.01	1.07
U. S.	116.00	122.00	138.00	146.00	5.50	5.60	.73	.76

* Certain wage rates are not estimated for some States because they are relatively unimportant.

Issued Boise, Idaho
October 15, 1952

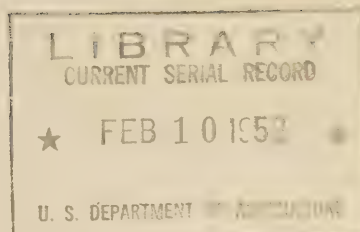
J. Howard Teter
Agricultural Statistician
Acting in Charge



Cecil C. Smith
Agricultural Statistician

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FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - JANUARY 1, 1953

Idaho: Farm wage rates being paid in Idaho on January 1 averaged higher than a year earlier according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for Idaho. Average rates per day and per hour without board and room and per month with house were well above a year earlier. On the other hand average rates per month with board and room were reported to be lower. The average for the year of 1952 was above 1951 in all categories.

UNITED STATES: Farm employment reached the seasonal low point during the week of December 21-27 as 6,485,000 persons were working on farms. This is the lowest estimate of record, being 1 percent below a year ago and 22 percent below last month. Family workers were reported to be 1 percent fewer than a year ago but the number of hired workers was 1 percent above last year.

The seasonally adjusted index of farm wage rates on January 1 reached a new high of 514. This was 3 percent above last October 1 and 3 percent above a year earlier. The increase from a year earlier indicates that farm wage rates may be starting to level off. A year ago there was an 11 percent rise from January 1, 1951 while rates on January 1, 1951 were 7 percent above the same date for 1950.

Farm wage rates generally follow the trend in cash receipts from farm marketings and prices received by farmers. Prices received have been declining in recent months and cash receipts in 1952 are only slightly above 1951. These measures of farmer's ability to pay wages to hired farm workers have been tending to limit increases in farm wage rates in recent months.

Farmers on January 1 this year, were paying hired workers at wage rates which averaged about 3 percent above a year ago for the country as a whole. Increases were greatest in the New England, Middle Atlantic and East North Central States where they amounted to 5 percent or slightly more. Increases were less than the National average in all other regions except the Mountain States. The smallest rise, 1 percent, occurred in the West South Central States.

Individual types of wage rates for the United States and for all regions were up from a year ago with one exception. Per hour rates without board or room in the West South Central States averaged the same as a year ago. For the entire country per day rates and per week rates without board or room were up 2 percent from last year. Other types of rates rose 4 or 5 percent.

Comparisons of National average wage rates for January 1, 1953 and October 1, 1952 are difficult because of shifts in the relative number of workers in different regions. For instance, on January 1, about 40 percent of the hired workers in the country were employed in the South, with its lower wage rate levels, while 3 months earlier the South had about 55 percent of the hired farm workers. The per hour without board or room rates rose 17 percent from October 1 to January 1 for the country as a whole. At the same time, regional averages for this rate dropped in all except two regions. In October, more than half of the workers receiving this rate were in the southern regions, where the average was about 60 cents; while less than half of the workers in the group were in regions where the hourly rate averages ranged from \$.96 to \$1.08. In January, about two-thirds of the workers receiving hourly rates without board or room were in regions where the average rate ranged from \$.87 to \$1.06.

Persons working on farms during the survey week consisted of 5,637,000 family workers and 848,000 hired workers. The number of family workers was 18 percent below a month ago and hired workers were 42 percent fewer than in November. The declines, however, were a little less than usual for the season. The decline in number of family workers from a month ago was the greatest in the South Atlantic and East South Central Regions; hired worker numbers showed the greatest decline in the East South Central and West South Central Regions.

FARM EMPLOYMENT & WAGE RATES

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PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING WEEK OF DECEMBER 21-27, 1952

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	December Average 1/1945-49	November 18-24 1951	December 23-29 1951	November 23-29 1952	December 21-27 1952
T h o u s a n d s					
<u>TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT</u>					
United States	7,353	8,873	6,524	8,338	6,485
Mountain	275	327	258	211	256
Pacific	411	452	371	451	372
<u>TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS 2/</u>					
United States	6,370	7,216	5,688	6,876	5,637
Mountain	215	213	196	207	197
Pacific	275	275	255	266	250
<u>TOTAL HIRED WORKERS 3/</u>					
United States	983	1,657	836	1,462	848
Mountain	60	114	62	104	59
Pacific	136	177	116	185	122

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. 2/ Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. 3/ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGE RATES BY STATES JANUARY 1, 1952 & 1953 *

STATE	PER MONTH				PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With Board and Room		With House		Without Board or Room		Without Board or Room	
	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953
D o l l a r s								
Montana	147.00	149.00	175.00	192.00	7.30	7.70	1.00	1.09
IDAHO	165.00	161.00	200.00	207.00	8.30	8.60	1.01	1.08
Wyoming	142.00	140.00	190.00	187.00	7.70	7.40	1.02	1.02
Colorado	131.00	134.00	171.00	180.00	7.20	7.40	.89	.93
New Mexico	116.00	110.00	146.00	146.00	6.10	5.60	.68	.70
Arizona	135.00	150.00	190.00	215.00	7.00	7.60	.73	.84
Utah	169.00	187.00	180.00	205.00	7.20	8.00	1.00	1.03
Nevada	145.00	170.00	171.00	195.00	7.40	7.50	1.00	1.00
Washington	172.00	175.00	211.00	225.00	--	--	1.13	1.15
Oregon	160.00	169.00	200.00	204.00	--	--	1.09	1.09
California	164.00	172.00	219.00	226.00	--	--	1.02	1.05
UNITED STATES	116.00	121.00	141.00	148.00	5.20	5.30	.86	.89

* Certain wage rates are not estimated because they are relatively unimportant.

Cecil C. Smith
Agricultural Statistician

Clarence E. White
Agricultural Statistician, In Charge

Issued Boise, Idaho
January 16, 1953

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Box 1778, Boise, Idaho

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - APRIL 1, 1953

IDAHO: Average wages being paid Idaho farm labor on April 1, 1953 were about 2 percent above the level of a year ago according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for IDAHO. Increases are reported for all methods of payments for which estimates are made. The average rate per month with room and board was \$171.00 compared to \$169.00 a year ago while the average wage rate with house was \$215.00 compared to \$208.00 last year. Farm labor hired by the day (without room and board) was getting an average of \$8.80 per day compared to \$8.50 on April 1, 1952. Likewise the average rate per hour without room and board was \$1.06 as against \$1.04 a year ago.

UNITED STATES: Farm employment showed about the usual seasonal increase from February with a total of 8,835,000 people engaged in farm work during the week of March 22-28. The total was 1,232,000 above a month earlier and 45,000 above a year earlier. This is the first month since October 1948 that total farm employment has shown an increase over the corresponding month a year earlier. This increase can be attributed to the very favorable weather during the survey week which permitted field work in nearly all parts of the country.

The number of family workers increased 11 percent from February to March and the number of hired workers increased 43 percent. A total of 7,140,000 family workers were employed at farm work during the survey week and 1,695,000 hired workers were doing farm work.

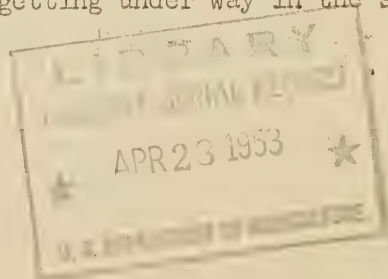
Farm wage rates, for the country as a whole, averaged 2 percent above a year earlier on about April 1. The weighted hourly average of all rates rose 1 cent to \$.581. This is one of the smallest increases over a year earlier that has been reported at any time in the last two years. It is probable that the decrease in prices received by farmers the last several months has limited the increase in farm wage rates.

By late March, farm work was generally off to a fast start in nearly all parts of the country. Most of the country experienced a relatively mild, open winter with weather and soil conditions permitting considerable field work to be done during March. Field work during late March was reported as general in all areas except the New England and Middle Atlantic Coast States where heavy rainfall rendered soils too wet for field activity. For the country as a whole, spring work was reported to be about two weeks ahead of normal.

Oat seedings were nearly completed as far north as Nebraska and were well advanced in the belt of States extending from Nebraska to Pennsylvania. States in the northern parts of the country were preparing land for the seeding of spring grains with some early spring grains already seeded in the Northern Mountain States and the Pacific Northwest. Southern States reported general field activity except in Arkansas and Tennessee where rains during the survey week prevented field work. Corn and cotton were being planted in the Southern Atlantic and Gulf Coast States extending from North Carolina to Texas. Some early planted fields in this area were up to good stands and were receiving the first cultivation. Cotton was also being planted in New Mexico, Arizona and California. Sugar beet planting was in progress in all areas of production and was well advanced for the season.

Harvest operations during the survey week consisted largely of picking citrus and harvesting winter vegetables in Florida, the lower valley of Texas and in California. Cabbage and strawberry harvests were also getting under way in the southern part of Alabama.

(Over)



FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES

- 2 -

The number of persons working on farms during the week of March 22-28 was greater than a year ago owing to increases in both family and hired workers with hired workers accounting for about 85 percent of the increase. The number of persons working on farms was greater than a year earlier in the West North Central, South Central and Mountain States as mild weather permitted farmers to make good progress with spring field work.

FARM EMPLOYMENT: JANUARY THROUGH MARCH 1953, WITH COMPARISONS 1/

Geographic Divisions	1948-52	1950	1951	1952	1953
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT					
United States	8,244	8,335	7,965	7,768	7,720
Mountain	274	276	269	260	264
Pacific	401	399	393	386	383
TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS 2/					
United States	6,919	6,993	6,689	6,510	6,457
Mountain	222	223	216	209	211
Pacific	263	265	255	249	249
TOTAL HIRED WORKERS 3/					
United States	1,325	1,342	1,276	1,258	1,263
Mountain	52	53	53	51	53
Pacific	138	134	138	137	134

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. 2/ Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. 3/ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGES, SELECTED STATES, APRIL 1, 1952 AND APRIL 1, 1953 1/

STATE	Per Month				Per Day		Per Hour	
	With Board & Room		With House		Without Bd. & Rm.		Without Bd. & Rm.	
	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953
	D o l l a r s							
Mont.	160.00	164.00	196.00	193.00	8.30	8.00	1.00	1.02
IDAHO	169.00	171.00	208.00	215.00	8.50	8.80	1.04	1.06
Wyoming	143.00	150.00	190.00	206.00	7.60	7.50	1.04	1.02
Colo.	131.00	137.00	177.00	184.00	7.30	7.50	.89	.93
N. Mex.	110.00	115.00	139.00	152.00	6.20	5.90	.71	.81
Ariz.	145.00	150.00	200.00	205.00	6.80	7.40	.80	.83
Utah	159.00	190.00	184.00	210.00	7.80	8.10	1.00	1.10
Nevada	150.00	168.00	175.00	192.00	7.50	7.90	1.00	1.05
Wash.	183.00	196.00	226.00	236.00	--	--	1.13	1.18
Oreg.	170.00	173.00	203.00	205.00	--	--	1.10	1.10
Calif.	164.00	171.00	219.00	224.00	--	--	1.02	1.06
U. S.	114.00	119.00	138.00	144.00	5.00	5.00	.83	.85

1/ Certain wage rates are not estimated because they are relatively unimportant.

Issued Boise, Idaho, April 14, 1953

Clarence E. White
Agricultural Statistician, In Charge

J. Howard Teter
Agricultural Statistician

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FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - OCTOBER 1, 1953

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FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - JULY 1, 1953

IDAHO: All Idaho farm wage rates except one were at an all-time high, according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for IDAHO. An average of \$171.00 per month with board and room was two dollars less than the rate a year ago. The rate per month with house averaged \$217.00, eight dollars higher than a year ago. The daily wage rate advanced from \$8.70 to \$9.20 per day and the hourly rate was up one cent to \$1.07 per hour. By the end of June, beet thinning was about complete and hoeing was progressing. When the latter is completed the peak labor demand will be past until the fall harvest commences.

UNITED STATES: Farm wage rates around July 1 were about $1\frac{1}{2}$ percent higher than a year earlier. Wage rates were also up from the April 1 level of this year by about the same extent or slightly less than the usual rise during the period.

There were 11,132,000 people working on the Nation's farms during the week of June 21-27. This was over 100,000 more than a year earlier. A small decrease in the number of family workers from a year ago was more than offset by an increase in hired workers.

Farm wage rates of all types increased over April 1 of this year and nearly all types increased over those on July 1 of last year. Regional rates generally advanced slightly from April 1 although a few rates showed no change or small declines. A quarterly upturn from April to July is usual as the volume of higher paid seasonal help increases for harvesting vegetables, fruits, wheat and other seasonal operations.

The U.S. average farm wage rate per hour, without board and room was 89 cents, an increase of 2 cents per hour from a year previous and 4 cents more than on April 1 of this year, which is about the usual rise for the quarter. Rates by regions ranged from \$.95 to \$1.09 per hour, except in the 3 southern regions where the averages were \$.54, \$.60, and \$.62 per hour.

Wage rates per day without board averaged \$5.30 on July 1 for the country as a whole, a gain of 10 cents per day over the same date in 1952. Regional averages showed a range from \$4.05 in the East South Central Region to \$8.30 in the West North Central States. The importance of skilled machinery operators, especially in the harvest of wheat, accounts in part for the relatively high average rate in the West North Central Region.

Farm work made good progress during June, except in the North from Minnesota, west to Washington and Oregon where cool, rainy weather delayed field operations and retarded crop growth and maturity. In other regions, the weather was generally hot and dry with severe drought conditions developing in many North Central and Southwestern areas.

The wheat crop was nearly all harvested in Oklahoma and Texas by the end of June and more than half of the Kansas acreage was harvested. Small grain harvest was active in most southern States during June and by the end of the month was getting started as far north as southern Nebraska and Illinois. Weather conditions were generally ideal for haying, which was a major activity in the northern half of the country. Cultivation of row crops was active in all areas during June and some corn was "laid-by" in the southern part of the Corn Belt. Cotton chopping and hoeing were well along. The need for cotton choppers was below expectations in the drought areas and many of the foreign workers have gone home or moved on to other jobs.

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES

- 2 -

The number of persons working on farms during the week of March 22-28 was greater than a year ago owing to increases in both family and hired workers with hired workers accounting for about 85 percent of the increase. The number of persons working on farms was greater than a year earlier in the West North Central, South Central and Mountain States as mild weather permitted farmers to make good progress with spring field work.

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES

- 2 -

Harvest of vegetables and early fruits was active in many States. Citrus harvest is still in progress in California but is completed in Florida. Peach harvest was well advanced in Georgia by the end of June and was getting under way farther north. Cherry picking was general in the earlier commercial areas. Potato harvest had moved as far north as Virginia and Maryland and harvest of green peas for processing was active in the northern States in June. Tobacco harvesting was under way in the tobacco areas of the Deep South.

The 11,132,000 people working on farms the week of June 21-27 was 1 percent more than a year earlier for the country as a whole.

FARM EMPLOYMENT: JANUARY THROUGH JUNE 1953, WITH COMPARISONS*

	1948-52	1950	1951	1952	1953
	Thousands				
<u>TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT</u>					
United States	9,769	9,808	9,435	9,212	9,184
Mountain	353	356	345	338	340
Pacific	493	490	480	474	473
<u>TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS #</u>					
United States	7,870	7,905	7,600	7,405	7,333
Mountain	259	260	251	248	248
Pacific	290	291	281	277	276
<u>TOTAL HIRED WORKERS /</u>					
United States	1,899	1,903	1,835	1,807	1,851
Mountain	94	96	94	90	92
Pacific	203	199	199	197	197

* Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. # Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. / Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGES, SELECTED STATES, JULY 1, 1952 AND JULY 1, 1953*

STATE	Per Month				Per Day		Per Hour	
	With		With		Without		Without	
	Board & Room		House		Board & Room		Board & Room	
	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953
	Dollars							
Mont.	167.00	167.00	205.00	204.00	8.80	8.70	1.10	1.06
IDAHO	173.00	171.00	209.00	217.00	8.70	9.20	1.06	1.07
Wyo.	154.00	152.00	199.00	201.00	7.90	7.70	1.21	1.18
Colo.	150.00	142.00	189.00	190.00	7.80	7.90	.91	.94
N.Mex.	115.00	112.00	140.00	156.00	5.90	6.00	.69	.71
Ariz.	140.00	155.00	205.00	200.00	7.00	7.00	.75	.78
Utah	170.00	190.00	190.00	208.00	7.80	8.40	1.05	1.10
Nev.	180.00	168.00	190.00	190.00	7.70	8.00	1.05	1.10
Wash.	186.00	198.00	221.00	229.00	--	--	1.10	1.11
Oreg.	180.00	173.00	205.00	210.00	--	--	1.10	1.10
Cal.	175.00	185.00	230.00	240.00	--	--	1.03	1.08
U.S.	121.00	124.00	155.00	161.00	5.20	5.30	.87	.89

* Certain wage rates are not estimated for some States because they are relatively unimportant.

Issued Boise, Idaho
July 16, 1953

Cecil C. Smith
Agricultural Statistician

J. Howard Teter
Agricultural Statistician
Acting in Charge

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Box 1778, Boise, Idaho

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - OCTOBER 1, 1953

IDAHO: The rate paid Idaho farm laborers with board and room on October 1, was \$171.00 compared with \$179.00 for the same month last year and \$168.00 in October 1951, according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for IDAHO. The rate per month with house was \$217.00, compared with \$219.00 on October 1, of last year. The daily wage rate for farm laborers, without board or room was \$9.30, twenty cents below a year ago. Hourly wages at \$1.09 per hour were 2¢ per hour below last year. The index of composite rates was 521 as compared with 517 a year ago.

Migratory workers have shifted their attention from southwest to eastern Idaho potato and beet harvests. Consequently, the southwest has shortages in bean, corn, hay, fruit and beet harvests. The sugar beet harvest will gain momentum as soon as weather permits stock piling. In the southcentral area a shortage of potato workers was expected as soon as weather and markets permitted digging. Frosts in the Idaho Falls area cut down potato vines, creating many openings for harvesters. Navajo Indians arrived in the Preston area for work in potatoes and beets.

UNITED STATES: A total of 11,299,000 persons were working on farms across the Nation during the week of September 20-26. This total was composed of 8,231,000 family workers, including farm operators, and 3,068,000 hired workers. Total farm employment reached its seasonal peak with 14 percent more workers than the previous month. However, both family and hired workers numbered 4 percent less than a year earlier and the total was at the lowest level for September in nearly 30 years of record.

October 1 farm wage rates were 3 percent higher than July 1 rates - about the usual seasonal increase. The average of all rates converted to an hourly basis increased from 67.5 cents to 69.7 cents. Compared to a year earlier, farm wage rates were up only 1 percent. Nearly all types of wage rates rose slightly from a year earlier. All regions showed small increases in the average of all rates from 1952 except the West South Central, Mountain, and Pacific States where decreases were moderate or there was no change.

The seasonally adjusted index of wage rates on October 1 was down from July 1 in the South Atlantic, Mountain, and Pacific States and up in the Middle Atlantic, North Central, and South Central States. The index for New England remained unchanged.

Wage rates per day, without board or room ranged from \$3.70 in South Carolina to \$9.30 in Idaho. These rates were below \$5.00 in eight Southern States. Average rates per hour without board or room were 70 cents or lower in all of the East South Central States; most of the South Atlantic States, and in Arkansas and Louisiana. Most other States ranged between 90 cents and \$1.10 per hour.

The weather was ideal for harvest operations during the survey week in nearly all areas. In the South Atlantic Coast area, a hurricane moved in at the end of the week, causing some crop damage. Warm, dry weather prevailed in the rest of the country. Dry soils delayed field preparation and planting of winter grains in many areas.

Cotton picking was the major activity in the Cotton Belt with harvest nearing completion in the Gulf Coast Plains. Reports indicated that in some local areas more pickers could have been used but in general the harvest was progressing rapidly.

Continued warm, dry weather hastened the maturity of corn. Some was picked during the survey week but a major part of the crop was not dry enough for cribbing. Silo filling was very active on dairy farms, speeded in the northern areas by killing frosts. Soybean harvest was in full swing in the Corn Belt. Dry bean harvest was active in the Northwest and in Michigan and New York but harvest was completed in some of the earlier producing States.

Planting of winter wheat was under way in most regions but in many areas, dry soils delayed field preparation and planting. In parts of the lower Great Plains, wheat was planted "in the dust," relying on later rains to bring up a stand.

FARM EMPLOYMENT: JANUARY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1953, WITH COMPARISONS 1/

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	1948-52	1950	1951	1952	1953
	T h o u s a n d s				
<u>TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT</u>					
United States	9,551	9,426	9,073	8,779	8,677
Mountain	414	413	392	384	382
Pacific	653	640	626	628	621
<u>TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS 2/</u>					
United States	7,384	7,287	7,034	6,792	6,688
Mountain	259	257	247	241	240
Pacific	342	337	329	327	323
<u>TOTAL HIRED WORKERS 3/</u>					
United States	2,167	2,139	2,039	1,987	1,989
Mountain	155	156	145	143	142
Pacific	311	303	297	301	298

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. 2/ Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. 3/ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGES, SELECTED STATES, OCTOBER 1, 1952 AND OCTOBER 1, 1953 1/

STATE	Per Month				Per Day		Per Hour	
	With Board & Room		With House		Without Bd.&Rm.		Without Bd.&Rm.	
	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953
	D o l l a r s							
Mont.	171.00	165.00	202.00	194.00	9.00	8.20	1.21	1.11
IDAHO	179.00	171.00	219.00	217.00	9.50	9.30	1.11	1.09
Wyo.	147.00	155.00	207.00	200.00	8.00	8.20	1.05	1.06
Colo.	146.00	134.00	192.00	186.00	8.20	7.90	.99	.94
N.Mex.	120.00	108.00	160.00	154.00	6.00	5.80	.80	.83
Ariz.	145.00	160.00	205.00	200.00	7.40	7.40	.80	.80
Utah	180.00	180.00	210.00	200.00	8.40	8.40	1.10	1.10
Nev.	160.00	170.00	190.00	190.00	7.80	8.00	1.05	1.10
Wash.	192.00	197.00	224.00	235.00	--	--	1.13	1.12
Oreg.	180.00	174.00	208.00	203.00	--	--	1.10	1.10
Calif.	176.00	180.00	228.00	240.00	--	--	1.07	1.07
U. S.	122.00	123.00	146.00	150.00	5.70	5.70	.76	.77

1/ Certain wage rates are not estimated for some States because they are relatively unimportant.

Issued Boise, Idaho
October 13, 1953

J. Howard Teter
Agricultural Statistician
Acting In Charge

Cecil C. Smith
Agricultural Statistician

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FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - JANUARY 1, 1954

IDAHO: Contrary to the national trend, ^{which was up from a year ago} the composite index of farm wage rates in Idaho on January 1, 1954 was less than one percent smaller than a year ago according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for IDAHO. The index for Idaho on January 1, 1954 was 517 compared to 525 a year ago. These are based on the 1910-14 average equaling 100 percent. The rate per month with board and room averaged two dollars higher than last year, increasing from \$161.00 to \$163.00. However the rate per month with house was down two dollars, from \$207.00 to \$205.00. The day rate was down from \$8.60 to \$8.50, and the hourly rate dropped from \$1.08 to \$1.03.

UNITED STATES: About a million and three-quarter fewer persons were employed on farms in December than a month earlier. Employment during the week of December 20-26 totaled 6,390,000. The usual seasonal decline left the total number of persons employed on farms slightly below a year ago.

The average number of persons employed on farms in 1953 was 8,580,000, down about 1 percent from 1952. The downward trend in numbers of persons working on farms appears to have slowed this year. In March of 1953, the number of workers was larger than for the same month a year earlier for the first time in over 4 years. However, December 1953 was the 60th successive month in which the number of family workers was less than for the comparable period the year before. The number of hired workers averaged slightly more for 1953 than for 1952. For half of the months of 1953, there were more hired workers employed than a year earlier.

Farm wage rates on about January 1 averaged a little higher than a year ago. The seasonally adjusted index reached a new high of 525, up 2 percent from a year earlier and from the previous quarter.

For the country as a whole, all individual types of farm wage rates were the same or more than a year earlier with only the rate per day with house and the rate per hour with house the same as a year ago. In comparison with October 1, both monthly rates and hourly rates without board or room were up on January 1, per day with house rates were the same and all other types of rates were lower. These are about the usual changes. Monthly rates for the year are usually established at the beginning of the year and seem to reflect the continued tight supply of regular year-round workers. Rates per hour without board or room were up sharply from October as the use of these rates shifted to the higher wage rate areas. The per hour with house rates dropped sharply as the proportion of workers paid these rates increased in the South.

For geographic regions, the weighted averages of all types of rates were above a year earlier except in the South Atlantic States where they were the same, and in the East South Central where they were down. Most individual types of rates were also above a year earlier or the same for all regions except in the East South Central States where all but one of the rates were lower.

The level of wage rates by regions, as measured by the seasonally adjusted index, was up from October in the Middle Atlantic, East North Central, West South Central, and Mountain States. Most individual rates, however, were lower or the same as in October except in the South Atlantic States. The changes in individual rates from last quarter by regions were in most cases about the same as usual.

Work on farms during the week of December 20-26, was largely reduced to necessary chores in most parts of the country except the extreme southern areas. Temperatures were below normal in the southern two-thirds of the country and above normal in the other third. Some of the jobs in the country, other than chores and maintenance work, were vegetable cultivation and harvest in Florida, California, Arizona, and lower Texas, cotton harvest in California, Arizona and Texas, which was nearly completed, citrus harvest in Florida and California and some late harvest operations in the South such as tung nut harvest in Louisiana and castor bean harvest in Texas. Tobacco stripping was in progress in the Burley Area.

The number of family workers employed during the survey week was slightly less than a year ago in about half of the geographic regions.

PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING WEEK OF DECEMBER 20-26, 1953, WITH COMPARISONS

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	December Average 1948-52 1/	November 23-29 1952	December 21-27 1952	November 22-28 1953	December 20-26 1953
	T h o u s a n d s				
<u>TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT</u>					
United States	7,047	8,078	6,486	8,147	6,390
Mountain	305	368	299	346	287
Pacific	492	578	471	594	480
<u>TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS 2/</u>					
United States	5,921	6,483	5,447	6,428	5,365
Mountain	206	202	196	196	194
Pacific	312	314	295	317	297
<u>TOTAL HIRE WORKERS 3/</u>					
United States	1,126	1,595	1,039	1,719	1,025
Mountain	99	166	103	150	93
Pacific	180	264	176	277	183

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. 2/ Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. 3/ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGE RATES BY STATES JANUARY 1, 1953 & 1954*

STATE	PER MONTH				PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With Board and Room		With House		Without Board or Room		Without Board or Room	
	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954
	D o l l a r s							
Montana	149.00	147.00	122.00	185.00	7.70	8.00	1.09	1.02
IDAHO	161.00	163.00	207.00	205.00	8.60	8.50	1.08	1.03
Wyoming	140.00	137.00	187.00	194.00	7.40	7.90	1.02	1.05
Colorado	134.00	133.00	180.00	178.00	7.40	7.30	.93	.92
New Mexico	110.00	108.00	146.00	146.00	5.60	5.80	.70	.72
Arizona	150.00	160.00	215.00	210.00	7.60	7.50	.84	.86
Utah	187.00	175.00	205.00	190.00	8.00	8.50	1.03	1.10
Nevada	170.00	165.00	195.00	185.00	7.50	7.50	1.00	1.10
Washington	175.00	171.00	225.00	221.00	--	--	1.15	1.15
Oregon	169.00	161.00	204.00	203.00	--	--	1.09	1.08
California	172.00	177.00	226.00	237.00	--	--	1.05	1.05
UNITED STATES	121.00	124.00	148.00	154.00	5.30	5.40	.89	.90

* Certain wage rates are not estimated because they are relatively unimportant.

Issued Boise, Idaho
January 18, 1954

Clarence E. White
Agricultural Statistician
In Charge

Cecil C. Smith
Agricultural Statistician

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service
Agricultural Estimates
Box 1778, Boise, Idaho

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - APRIL 1, 1954

IDAHO: Average wage rates paid Idaho farm labor on April 1, 1954, were about 3 percent below the level of a year ago according to the USDA Crop Reporting Service for Idaho. Decreases were reported for all methods of payment for which estimates are made. The average rate per month with board and room was \$165.00 compared with \$171.00 a year ago. The average rate with house was \$210.00, five dollars below April 1, 1953. Farm labor hired by the day (without board or room) was getting an average of \$8.60 per day compared to \$8.80 last April. The average rate per hour without board or room was \$1.02, four cents below a year ago.

UNITED STATES: The estimated 7,278,000 persons at work on farms during the week of March 21-27, were 840,000 more than a month earlier. There were about 600,000 more family workers and nearly a quarter of a million more hired workers employed as spring work was starting in most parts of the country. The increases were about the usual for the season.

There were 2 percent fewer persons working on farms in March this year than a year ago. The decrease is partly due to an earlier season a year ago and unfavorable weather during the survey week this year, in some parts of the country.

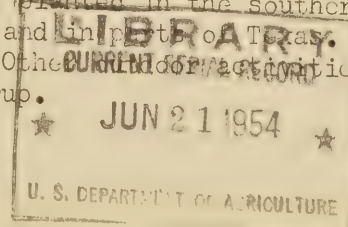
Farm wage rates on April 1 were about the same as a year ago for the country as a whole. The seasonally adjusted index stood at 507 compared to 508 a year earlier. Wage rates were higher than last year in the Northeast, and the South Atlantic States, about the same in the South Central States and down in the North Central States and in the West.

National averages of individual types of rates showed varying changes from a year ago. Some rates were up, some down and some remained the same. This was also true for all geographic regions except two. In the West North Central and Mountain States, all types of rates were less than a year earlier.

Differences in the level of average wage rates between January 1 and April 1 depend on a number of factors. The averages of individual rates are affected not only by changes in the rates themselves but also by changes in the numbers of hired workers employed at various rates. In addition the weighted average of all types of rates is affected by differences in the factors used to compute equivalent hourly rates. However, the seasonally adjusted index of farm wage rates indicates a 3 percent decline in farm wage rates from January 1 to April 1. The level of wage rates in most regions was also lower except in the New England, South Atlantic and Pacific States where the adjusted index was higher and in the West North Central States where the index was unchanged.

Farm work in late March this year was generally not as far long as a year ago. Field work was not yet started in most of the northern border States. In addition, rain in many areas of the eastern part of the country during the survey week slowed or delayed field work. In parts of Oklahoma and Texas, farmers were delaying spring planting because of dry weather.

Farm activities in most parts of the country consisted of plowing, working land and planting spring crops. Planting of oats was about finished as far north as Kansas was underway in southern Iowa, Illinois, and Indiana and starting in northern parts of this area. Land intended for corn was also being prepared in most parts of the country. In the South, corn and cotton were being planted in the southern parts of Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina and in parts of Texas. Tobacco was also being set in the more southern regions. Other current farm activities included orchard pruning and making of maple sugar and sirup.



The total number of persons at work on farms in late March was 13 percent greater than a month earlier for the country as a whole. Increases by regions ranged from 10 percent to 16 percent except for New England where the increase was less. In the New England, East South Central and West South Central States, increases were less than the average for recent years. In the West North Central, Mountain and Pacific States the increase in total employment was larger than usual.

FARM EMPLOYMENT: JANUARY THROUGH MARCH 1954, WITH COMPARISONS 1/

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS	1948-52	1951	1952	1953	1954
<u>TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT</u>	<u>T h o u s a n d s</u>				
United States	7,278	6,923	6,703	6,643	6,556
Mountain	293	283	274	277	271
Pacific	491	475	477	465	455
<u>FAMILY WORKERS 2/</u>					
United States	6,071	5,763	5,577	5,529	5,448
Mountain	213	205	198	200	197
Pacific	314	299	300	295	290
<u>HIRED WORKERS 3/</u>					
United States	1,207	1,160	1,126	1,114	1,108
Mountain	80	78	76	77	74
Pacific	177	176	177	170	165

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. 2/ Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. 3/ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGES, SELECTED STATES, APRIL 1, 1953 AND APRIL 1, 1954 1/

STATE	PER MONTH				PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With Board and Room		With House		Without Board and Room		Without Board and Room	
	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954
	<u>D o l l a r s</u>							
Mont.	164.00	156.00	193.00	193.00	8.00	8.20	1.02	1.02
IDAHO	171.00	165.00	215.00	210.00	8.80	8.60	1.06	1.02
Wyo.	150.00	140.00	206.00	191.00	7.50	7.80	1.02	1.03
Colo.	137.00	130.00	184.00	180.00	7.50	7.20	.93	.91
N. Mex.	115.00	108.00	152.00	146.00	5.90	6.00	.81	.73
Ariz.	150.00	145.00	205.00	200.00	7.40	6.80	.83	.82
Utah	190.00	180.00	210.00	205.00	8.10	8.00	1.10	1.05
Nev.	168.00	160.00	192.00	185.00	7.90	7.60	1.05	1.05
Wash.	196.00	178.00	236.00	235.00	--	--	1.18	1.15
Oreg.	173.00	165.00	205.00	202.00	--	--	1.10	1.08
Calif.	171.00	180.00	224.00	234.00	--	--	1.06	1.05
U. S.	119.00	117.00	144.00	144.00	5.00	5.00	.85	.84

1/ Certain wage rates are not estimated because they are relatively unimportant.

Issued Boise, Idaho April 13, 1954

Cecil C. Smith
Agricultural Statistician

Clarence E. White
Agricultural Statistician In Charge

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

Agricultural Estimates

Box 1778, Boise, Idaho

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - JULY 1, 1954

IDAHO: The composite index of farm wage rates for Idaho on July 1, 1954 was 495 percent of the 1910-14 average according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for IDAHO. This was 24 points below last July and the lowest index since October, 1951, which was 470. The annual index for 1953 was 520 compared with 486 for 1951.

The average wage rate per month with board and room this July was \$165, six dollars below last July. Wages per month with house declined from an average of \$217.00 to \$210.00. The rate per day without board or room on July 1 as compared to a year earlier was down from \$9.20 to \$8.50 and the rate paid for hour, with board or room, was down from \$1.07 to \$1.04.

The labor supply was adequate, although some shortages were expected when the sweet cherry crop hit its peak, but these workers were expected to be obtained from nearby areas.

UNITED STATES: More persons were employed as hired workers on farms during the week of June 20-26 than a year earlier while farm wage rates were lower. However, the number of family workers for the U.S. was about 200,000 less than a year ago, which more than offset the increase in the number of hired workers. A little over 9-1/2 million people were at work on farms. Of this total, about 7 million were farm operators and unpaid members of their families.

In comparison with a month earlier, the total number of persons working on farms was up about the usual 4 percent. The number of family workers was less than a month earlier, by more than the usual percentage while the increase in the number of hired workers was greater than usual. However, the increase in the number of hired workers was the same as a year ago.

Wage rates of hired farm workers over the U.S. were 2 percent lower than a year earlier. The average of all rates on an hourly basis was 66.3 cents compared with 67.5 cents a year earlier. All types of rates were lower except per day with board and room and per day with house which were the same.

Farm wage rates continued the downward movement shown in April but the decrease in the quarter just past was quite small. The wage rate index, seasonally adjusted, was 505 on July 1 compared with 507 on April 1. Individual types of wage rates, except for per day with house rates, rose from April 1 to July 1 as they usually do at this season. However, the increase was less than usual for the season.

Farm wage rates were also lower than they were a year earlier except in three regions. They remained about the same in the East North Central States and were up slightly in the Middle Atlantic and West South Central States. In the East North Central and Middle Atlantic States, wage rates in industry probably tended to hold up farm wage rates. In the West South Central States, wage rates were probably held up by more favorable crop prospects in Oklahoma and Texas than in 1953.

The wage rate level dropped from April 1 in all regions. The decreases amounted to less than a half percent in the West South Central and Pacific States. The largest decreases were a 3-percent drop in the Mountain States and a 2-percent drop in the West North Central States.

Hot, dry weather in most of the country during the week of June 20-26, made rapid progress on farm work possible. Rains, in Iowa, which raised streams to flood stage, delayed work in some areas of the State. The rains and flood in southern Texas came late in the survey week and had little effect on employment.

The major jobs for the country as a whole were harvesting small grains, making hay and cultivating various crops. Small grain harvest was about over in the southern part of the country and starting in southern areas of the East North Central States. Winter wheat harvest was finished in the earlier areas of Texas and just starting in the northern High Plains. The Kansas wheat harvest was about half finished with most of the crop harvested in the South. Hay making and crop cultivation were in progress practically everywhere. Cotton hoeing and chopping were proceeding well in the South and the Southwest.

(Over)

★ JUL 29 1954

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FARM EMPLOYMENT & WAGE RATES

- 2 -

PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING WEEK OF JUNE 20-26, 1954, WITH COMPARISONS

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	June Average 1948-52 <u>1/</u>	May 24-30 1953	June 21-27 1953	May 23-29 1954	June 20-26 1954
T h o u s a n d s					
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT					
United States	10,600	9,372	9,784	9,285	9,642
Mountain	443	407	417	405	415
Pacific	755	651	738	705	728
TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS <u>2/</u>					
United States	7,986	7,392	7,205	7,251	6,994
Mountain	264	270	243	267	239
Pacific	369	345	359	352	350
TOTAL HIRED WORKERS <u>3/</u>					
United States	2,614	1,980	2,579	2,034	2,648
Mountain	179	137	174	138	176
Pacific	386	306	379	353	378

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. 2/ Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. 3/ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGE RATES BY STATES JULY 1, 1953 & 1954 1/

STATE	PER MONTH				PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With Board and Room		With House		Without Board or Room		Without Board or Room	
	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954
D o l l a r s								
Montana	167.00	171.00	204.00	204.00	8.70	8.00	1.06	1.02
IDAHO	171.00	165.00	217.00	210.00	9.20	8.50	1.07	1.04
Wyoming	152.00	145.00	201.00	192.00	7.70	8.40	1.18	1.07
Colorado	142.00	133.00	190.00	179.00	7.90	7.30	.94	.90
New Mexico	112.00	110.00	156.00	156.00	6.00	6.00	.71	.73
Arizona	155.00	150.00	200.00	210.00	7.00	7.20	.78	.79
Utah	190.00	190.00	208.00	210.00	8.40	8.00	1.10	1.00
Nevada	168.00	165.00	190.00	190.00	8.00	7.40	1.10	1.00
Washington	198.00	193.00	229.00	230.00	-	-	1.11	1.12
Oregon	173.00	172.00	210.00	202.00	-	-	1.10	1.08
California	185.00	180.00	240.00	238.00	-	-	1.08	1.06
UNITED STATES	124.00	122.00	161.00	160.00	5.30	5.20	.89	.87

1/ Certain wage rates are not estimated for some States because they are relatively unimportant.

Issued Boise, Idaho
July 13, 1954

Clarence E. White
Agricultural Statistician
In Charge

Cecil C. Smith
Agricultural Statistician

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FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - OCTOBER 1, 1954

IDAHO: The index of composite farm wage rates for Idaho on October 1, 1954 was 513 percent of the 1910-14 average according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for IDAHO. This was 18 points above July 1, 1954, but 8 points below October 1, 1953 and seven points below the annual average for last year.

The average wage rate per month with board and room this October was \$175, four dollars above last October. Wages per month with house at \$217 were the same as last October. The rate per day, without board or room, was down from last year's \$9.30 to \$9.10 this October and the rate paid per hour without board or room was down from \$1.09 to \$1.06.

The labor supply was thought to be adequate, but some shortages were expected when the late potato harvest reached volume proportions.

UNITED STATES: Wage rates paid hired farm workers about October 1 continued the downward trend which started early in the year. The index of farm wages dropped 1 percent from July and is now 4 percent below January 1. Wage rates on October 1 are also 2 1/2 percent less than a year earlier.

The number of people at work on farms during the week of September 19-25, was up about a million and a half from a month earlier to 11,224,000 as cotton picking became general in the South. However, there were nearly 100,000 fewer people doing farm work than a year earlier. A small increase in the number of hired workers was not enough to offset a decrease in the number of family workers.

The drop in the seasonally adjusted wage rate indices was general except in the West North Central States and the East South Central States. In the West North Central States, the index was up 2 percent perhaps due to some shift in the seasonal employment pattern. In the East South Central States, the index remained about the same. The largest decreases occurred in the Middle Atlantic, South Atlantic, and West South Central States.

The decreases from a year ago in wage rates was fairly uniform for the entire country. There were decreases in all geographic regions with the smallest drop in the Pacific States and the largest in the East South Central States. The decline in the East South Central States stands out because wage rates reached their peak in this region in October a year ago.

Changes in individual types of rates from July 1 to October 1 varied. For the national averages, monthly and weekly rates, daily rates with board and room, and hourly rates without board or room were all down. In some cases, the change in national averages was due to actual changes in rates while in others it was due to shifts in the proportions of workers employed at the rate. In the case of monthly rates, averages for geographic regions were down from July with one exception. The national average hourly rate without board or room was down 12 cents but the averages for all regions except those in the South were 1 or 2 cents lower than the previous quarter. In the South Atlantic and West South Central States, this rate was up slightly and was unchanged in the East South Central States. In this case, a large increase in the South in the proportion of workers employed at this rate was responsible for the change in the national average. Regional averages for the hourly rate without board or room ranged from 52 to 66 cents in the South while in all other regions it was above 90 cents.

In comparison with a year earlier, individual types of wage rates were all lower than a year ago on the national level. This was also true for most regional averages. However, in the East and West North Central, Mountain and Pacific States monthly rates with house were up from last year. This probably indicates continued difficulty in finding qualified workers for year-round jobs. Hourly rates without board or room, the rate most commonly used for seasonal labor, were 2 cents less for the entire country and ranged from 1 to 3 cents less for geographic regions.

(Over)

PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING WEEK OF SEPT. 19-25, 1954, WITH COMPARISONS

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	Sept. Average 48-52 1/	Aug. 23-29 1953	Sept. 20-26 1953	Aug. 22-28 1954	Sept. 19-25 1954
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT	T h o u s a n d s				
United States	12,669	9,903	11,299	9,666	11,224
Mountain	542	469	478	463	462
Pacific	838	751	794	744	796
TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS 2/					
United States	9,213	7,182	8,231	7,043	8,127
Mountain	299	252	276	252	263
Pacific	345	333	327	337	332
TOTAL HIRED WORKERS 3/					
United States	3,456	2,721	3,068	2,623	3,097
Mountain	243	217	202	211	199
Pacific	493	418	467	407	464

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. 2/ Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. 3/ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGE RATES BY STATES OCTOBER 1, 1953 & 1954 1/

STATE	PER MONTH				PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With Board and Room		With House		Without Board or Room		Without Board or Room	
	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954
	D o l l a r s							
Montana	165.00	165.00	194.00	200.00	8.20	8.40	1.11	1.03
IDAHO	171.00	175.00	217.00	217.00	9.30	9.10	1.09	1.06
Wyoming	155.00	140.00	200.00	195.00	8.20	7.80	1.06	1.04
Colorado	134.00	134.00	186.00	182.00	7.90	7.70	.94	.92
New Mexico	108.00	106.00	154.00	152.00	5.80	5.80	.83	.72
Arizona	160.00	150.00	200.00	210.00	7.40	7.50	.80	.82
Utah	180.00	180.00	200.00	200.00	8.40	8.00	1.10	1.05
Nevada	170.00	160.00	190.00	185.00	8.00	7.60	1.10	1.05
Washington	197.00	208.00	235.00	239.00	-	-	1.12	1.15
Oregon	174.00	168.00	203.00	205.00	-	-	1.10	1.08
California	180.00	177.00	240.00	240.00	-	-	1.07	1.06
UNITED STATES	123.00	120.00	150.00	149.00	5.70	5.60	.77	.75

1/ Certain wage rates are not estimated for some States because they are relatively unimportant.

Issued Boise, Idaho
October 14, 1954

W. G. Lee
Agricultural Statistician
Acting In Charge

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service
Agricultural Estimates
Box 1778, Boise, Idaho

JUN 2 1955

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - APRIL 1, 1955

IDAHO: The index of composite wage rates paid to Idaho farm laborers on April 1, 1955 at 504 percent of the 1910-14 average, was practically the same as a year ago, according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for IDAHO. The rate per month with house averaged \$210 on both April 1, 1954 and 1955. However, the monthly rate with board and room was down from \$165 to \$160. The rate per day, without board or room, remained the same at \$8.60, while the hourly rate under the same category increased from \$1.02 to \$1.04 per hour.

There was a definite shortage of experienced farm workers especially for permanent year around employment, but otherwise the labor supply was adequate. Farming activities have been delayed by cold, windy weather and snowcover. The general season was estimated to be ten days to two weeks behind schedule, but farmers in retarded areas were busy with preparations for the coming of spring activities.

UNITED STATES: About 6,918,000 persons were at work on farms during the week of March 20-26. With the beginning of the spring planting season, the number of farm workers increased 819,000. The increase of 13 percent was about the same as usual. The number of family workers was up 12 percent from a month earlier while the number of hired workers was 22 percent larger.

In comparison with a year earlier, there were 5 percent fewer family workers and 5 percent fewer hired workers. These decreases are probably partially accounted for by differences in weather conditions. However, some of the decline is a continuation of the long-time downtrend in the number of persons working on farms.

Wage rates for hired farm workers about April 1 averaged 2 percent higher than a year earlier for the country as a whole. The seasonally adjusted index was 516 compared with 507 last April. All types of rates were higher or the same. In comparison with the previous quarter, farm wage rates averaged about 1 percent lower. All types of rates were down except weekly rates. The weekly rate with board and room was unchanged and the rate without board or room was up slightly.

Comparisons of farm wage rates for April 1 with January 1 rates on a national basis, are difficult because of shifts between regions in numbers of hired workers. Wage rates by States and regions usually rise from January 1 to April 1 yet the national averages usually decrease because of a higher proportion of hired workers in the lower wage areas in April. For example, in January about 40 percent of the hired farm workers were employed in the South while about April 1 this proportion increased to 60 percent. The proportion of hired workers in the East South Central States nearly doubled.

Averages of all types of farm wage rates by regions, were up from a year ago for all regions except the West South Central where they were the same. Unfavorable crop prospects in parts of the area may have tended to hold down rate increases. Individual types of rates were mostly the same or higher than a year ago.

The seasonally adjusted index shows a 1 percent decrease in farm wage rates from January for the Nation but changes by regions varied. The index was up in the East North Central and West North Central States, the South, and the Pacific States and down elsewhere. Averages of individual types of rates were generally up from January 1 to April 1 except in the West South Central States. The averages of all types of rates dropped in this region but not as much as usual as the seasonally adjusted index was up. In contrast to this situation, in the New England States, the averages for the region for all individual rates were the same or higher in April than January but increased less than usual since the seasonally adjusted index was down.

Farm work during the week of March 20-26 was delayed in most parts of the country. Two cold waves, one at the beginning of the week and the other at the end of the week slowed or stopped most field work. Temperatures averaged below normal in practically all areas. The area from Texas north to North Dakota and Montana had the coldest weather. Average temperatures were from 6 degrees below normal in the southern part of Texas to nearly 30 degrees below normal in parts of Montana. Rainfall was light in most areas except for a part of northern Alabama and Mississippi, central Tennessee, and in New Jersey and the southern New England States.

(Over)

Where possible, farmers were busy plowing and planting spring crops. Corn planting was starting as far north as northern South Carolina. Some cotton was being planted in southern Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi. Potatoes were being planted in the Virginia Eastern Shore area, in central New Jersey, and on Long Island. Oats were being seeded in the southern part of the North Central Region. Some plowing was being done as far north as southern Michigan. Farther north, field work had not yet started. In some places along the northern border the ground was still frozen.

FARM EMPLOYMENT: JANUARY THROUGH MARCH 1955, WITH COMPARISONS 1/

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS	1950-54	1952	1953	1954	1955
T h o u s a n d s					
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT					
United States	6,818	6,703	6,643	6,556	6,269
Mountain	278	274	277	271	260
Pacific	470	477	465	455	472
FAMILY WORKERS 2/					
United States	5,676	5,577	5,529	5,448	5,206
Mountain	202	198	200	197	189
Pacific	298	300	295	290	296
HIRED WORKERS 3/					
United States	1,142	1,126	1,114	1,108	1,063
Mountain	76	76	77	74	71
Pacific	172	177	170	165	176

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. 2/ Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. 3/ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGES, SELECTED STATES, APRIL 1, 1954 AND APRIL 1, 1955 1/

STATE	PER MONTH				PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With House		With Board and Room		Without Board and Room		Without Board and Room	
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
D o l l a r s								
Mont.	193.00	191.00	156.00	161.00	8.20	7.70	1.02	.99
IDAHO	210.00	210.00	165.00	160.00	8.60	8.60	1.02	1.04
Wyo.	191.00	196.00	140.00	141.00	7.80	8.00	1.03	1.02
Colo.	180.00	182.00	130.00	134.00	7.20	7.40	.91	.92
N. Mex.	146.00	159.00	108.00	112.00	6.00	5.80	.73	.74
Ariz.	200.00	220.00	145.00	150.00	6.80	7.30	.82	.81
Utah	205.00	207.00	180.00	180.00	8.00	8.00	1.05	1.05
Nev.	185.00	180.00	160.00	160.00	7.60	7.30	1.05	1.00
Wash.	235.00	236.00	178.00	186.00	--	--	1.15	1.16
Oreg.	202.00	205.00	165.00	167.00	--	--	1.08	1.10
Calif.	234.00	237.00	180.00	184.00	--	--	1.05	1.06
U. S.	144.00	145.00	117.00	118.00	5.00	5.10	.84	.85

1/ Certain wage rates are not estimated because they are relatively unimportant.

Issued Boise, Idaho
April 13, 1955

Cecil C. Smith
Agricultural Statistician

Clarence E. White
Agricultural Statistician
In Charge

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

Agricultural Estimates

Box 1778, Boise, Idaho

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - JULY 1, 1955

IDAHO: The composite index of farm wage rates for Idaho on July 1, 1955 was 516 percent of the 1910-14 average according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for IDAHO. This was 21 points above last July but 3 points below July of 1953 when the index level was 519.

The average wage rate per month with board and room this July was \$170.00, five dollars above last July. Wage rates per month with house increased from an average of \$210.00 last July to \$218.00 this year. The rate per day without board or room was up from \$8.50 to \$9.10 and the rate paid per hour without board or room increased from \$1.04 a year ago to \$1.06.

Local supplies of agricultural labor were not enough to meet haying, beet thinning and irrigation demands. A shortage of cherry pickers has developed in the sweet cherry sections of southwest Idaho and additional pea and strawberry pickers were needed in the main areas.

UNITED STATES: About 9.3 million people were at work on farms during the week of June 19-25. Of this total, 6.8 million were operators and unpaid members of their families and 2.5 million were hired workers. The number of family workers was 2 percent less than a year earlier and the number of hired workers was 6 percent less.

In comparison with a month earlier, the number of family workers was down 2 percent while the number of hired workers was up about a fourth or about a half million. Both changes were about usual for the season.

On a regional basis, wage rates averaged higher than a year ago in all regions except the West North Central. Increases varied from 1 percent to 4 percent with the largest increase in the New England States. Increases in industrial wage rates probably had the greatest effect in this area. Individual rates were also all higher than a year earlier except in the West North Central States and in a few cases where individual rates held steady. In the West North Central States, the monthly rate with house, and the daily rate without board or room were under a year earlier while the hourly rate without board or room remained the same. Rather slow progress of winter wheat harvest may account for the failure of wage rates to increase in this region as they did in other regions.

Individual types of wage rates for the country as a whole were up from April 1 but not as much as usual as indicated by the drop of 1 percent in the seasonally adjusted index. The index indicates that by regions, changes from April 1 were mixed. The index was down in the Middle Atlantic, East and West North Central, and South Atlantic States, up in the New England, East and West South Central States, and about the same in the Mountain and Pacific States. The largest changes were the increase in the New England States and the decrease in the West North Central States. Changes in other Regions were about 1 percent or less.

For individual types of rates, practically all rates in all regions were up seasonally except in the South Atlantic States. In this region, all individual rates were lower than the previous quarter. A decrease in individual types of rates is usual for the season in this region, but the decrease in the seasonally adjusted index indicates a little greater than usual drop this year. Wage rates in this region are probably influenced by large numbers of children out of school working for lower rates than persons available about April 1.

Weather during the week of June 19-25 was generally favorable for farm work. Temperatures were a little above normal in the Mountain States and slightly below normal in the rest of the country. Rain in the form of scattered showers was light in most of the country. Moderate to heavy rains hit the Atlantic Coast, eastern Texas, and a narrow belt from Eastern Wyoming to Tennessee.

Farm work during the survey week consisted largely of cultivation of row crops and harvest of small grains and hays. Cultivation of crops was in progress practically everywhere. In some areas of the South, crops had been "laid by." Small grain harvest was completed in much of the South and was starting in the North Central States.

(Over)

Winter wheat harvest was completed in Texas except in the High Plains area and was well along in Kansas. In Kansas, cloudy weather, uneven ripening, and weeds were slowing harvest slightly. Very little combining was done in the western part of the State. Supplies of men and equipment were adequate.

Most planting was completed before the end of June. However, in parts of the South, soybeans and grain sorghums were being planted after small grains had been harvested.

PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING WEEK OF JUNE 19-25, 1955, WITH COMPARISONS

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	June Average 1950-54 ^{1/}	May 23-29 1954	June 20-26 1954	May 22-28 1955	June 19-25 1955
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT	T h o u s a n d s				
United States	9,950	9,285	9,642	8,921	9,329
Mountain	428	405	415	390	396
Pacific	733	705	728	668	712
TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS ^{2/}					
United States	7,387	7,251	6,994	6,947	6,832
Mountain	248	267	239	259	224
Pacific	357	352	350	350	354
TOTAL HIRED WORKERS ^{3/}					
United States	2,563	2,034	2,648	1,974	2,497
Mountain	180	138	176	131	172
Pacific	376	353	378	318	358

^{1/} Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. ^{2/} Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. ^{3/} Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGE RATES BY STATES JULY 1, 1954 & 1955 ^{1/}

STATE	PER MONTH				PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With Board and Room		With House		Without Board or Room		Without Board or Room	
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
D o l l a r s								
Montana	171.00	167.00	204.00	204.00	8.00	8.30	1.02	1.02
IDAHO	165.00	170.00	210.00	218.00	8.50	9.10	1.04	1.06
Wyoming	145.00	144.00	192.00	205.00	8.40	8.20	1.07	1.02
Colorado	133.00	140.00	179.00	184.00	7.30	7.60	.90	.93
New Mexico	110.00	125.00	156.00	164.00	6.00	6.20	.73	.74
Arizona	150.00	155.00	210.00	230.00	7.20	7.50	.79	.85
Utah	190.00	185.00	210.00	220.00	8.00	8.30	1.00	1.10
Nevada	165.00	160.00	190.00	188.00	7.40	8.00	1.00	1.05
Washington	193.00	198.00	230.00	244.00	--	--	1.12	1.14
Oregon	172.00	172.00	202.00	210.00	--	--	1.08	1.10
California	180.00	190.00	238.00	245.00	--	--	1.06	1.07
UNITED STATES	122.00	125.00	160.00	163.00	5.20	5.30	.87	.88

^{1/} Certain wage rates are not estimated for some States because they are relatively unimportant.

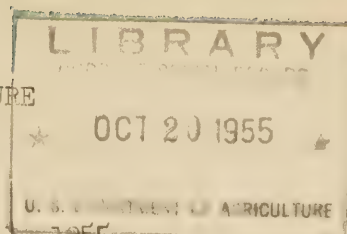
Issued Boise, Idaho
July 13, 1955

Cecil C. Smith
Agricultural Statistician

Clarence E. White
Agricultural Statistician
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service
Agricultural Estimates
Box 1778, Boise, Idaho



FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - OCTOBER 1, 1955

IDAHO: The index of composite farm wage rates for Idaho on October 1, 1955 was 527 percent of the 1910-14 average according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for IDAHO. This was 11 points above July 1955, and 14 points above October 1954.

The average wage rate per month with board and room this October was \$177, two dollars above last October. Wages per month with house at \$219 averaged two dollars above last year. The rate per day, without board or room, was up from \$9.10 to \$9.40, compared with October 1st of last year, and the rate paid per hour without board or room was up from \$1.06 to \$1.10.

UNITED STATES: A total of 10,849,000 persons, 375,000 less than a year earlier, worked on farms during the week of September 18-24. The number of family workers was down 2 percent from a year earlier while hired workers totaled 7 percent less. The large decrease in the number of hired workers was partly due to rain and partly to the advanced stage of farm work in certain areas.

The increase from a month earlier in total employment of about a million and quarter was a little less than usual. Family workers were up a little more than a million, about the usual percentage increase. The number of hired workers was up 6 percent in contrast to an average increase of about 13 percent and an 18-percent increase last year.

Farm wage rates on about October 1 were up 3 percent from a year earlier and about 2 percent from July 1. The farm wage rate index for October 1 this year was 518 compared with 502 a year earlier and 510 for the previous quarter. Farm wage rates are apparently being influenced by increases in wage rates in non-agricultural jobs.

Individual types of wage rates averaged higher than a year earlier for all classifications except one which was unchanged. The monthly rate with house was up \$5 to average \$154, the per day without board or room rate was up 10 cents to average \$5.70 while the per hour without board rate of 77 cents was up 2 cents.

When compared with the previous quarter, per day with house, per day without board or room and per hour with house rates averaged higher. The per month with board and room rate was unchanged and all other types of rates dropped. These changes followed the usual pattern of seasonal change but variations from the usual amount of change resulted in an average for all rates which was up more than usual.

Wage rates, as measured by the seasonally adjusted index, were up from a year ago on October 1 for all geographic regions. Increases were largest in the New England, East South Central, West South Central and Mountain States. The average was up least for the West North Central States where demand for farm labor as indicated by the low level of hired employment was light. When compared with the previous quarter farm wage rates October 1 were lower in the New England, Middle Atlantic and South Atlantic States and the same for the Pacific States. In all other geographic regions, they were higher.

Part of the survey week was rainy over most of the Great Plains, the Upper Mississippi and Ohio Valleys and the Northeast. Heavy rains fell in most of Oklahoma, north central Texas, southeastern New Mexico, west central Arkansas, most of Kansas, the northwestern part of Missouri, southwestern Iowa and southeastern Nebraska. Another area of heavy rainfall included most of the Nebraska-South Dakota border counties and extended across much of the western half of South Dakota. The southern half of Indiana and southwestern Ohio and an area covering the eastern half of North Carolina and extending into the coastal sections of Virginia and South Carolina also had heavy rains. Temperatures averaged above normal in most of the eastern half of the country south of the Great Lakes. By the latter part of the week, however, most of the country had cool weather.

(Over)

FARM EMPLOYMENT & WAGE RATES

- 2 -

PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING WEEK OF SEPT. 18-24, 1955, WITH COMPARISONS

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	Sept. Average 50-54 1/	Aug. 22-28 1954	Sept. 19-25 1954	Aug. 21-27 1955	Sept. 18-24 1955
	T h o u s a n d s				
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT					
United States	11,683	9,666	11,224	9,602	10,849
Mountain	493	463	462	497	454
Pacific	798	744	796	737	814
TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS 2/					
United States	8,521	7,043	8,127	6,876	7,960
Mountain	279	252	263	251	255
Pacific	334	337	332	339	334
TOTAL HIRED WORKERS 3/					
United States	3,162	2,623	3,097	2,726	2,889
Mountain	214	211	199	246	199
Pacific	464	407	464	398	480

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. 2/ Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. 3/ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGE RATES BY STATES OCTOBER 1, 1954 & 1955 1/

STATE	PER MONTH				PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With Board and Room		With House		Without Board or Room		Without Board or Room	
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
	D o l l a r s							
Montana	165.00	165.00	200.00	199.00	8.40	8.30	1.03	1.09
IDAHO	175.00	177.00	217.00	219.00	9.10	9.40	1.06	1.10
Wyoming	140.00	146.00	195.00	200.00	7.80	8.50	1.04	1.07
Colorado	134.00	141.00	182.00	191.00	7.70	7.80	.92	.97
New Mexico	106.00	122.00	152.00	170.00	5.80	6.40	.72	.78
Arizona	150.00	160.00	210.00	235.00	7.50	8.00	.82	.85
Utah	180.00	192.00	200.00	213.00	8.00	8.20	1.05	1.10
Nevada	160.00	162.00	185.00	190.00	7.60	8.00	1.05	1.05
Washington	208.00	205.00	239.00	240.00	-	-	1.15	1.19
Oregon	168.00	173.00	205.00	215.00	-	-	1.08	1.10
California	177.00	185.00	240.00	243.00	-	-	1.06	1.09
UNITED STATES	120.00	125.00	149.00	154.00	5.60	5.70	.75	.77

1/ Certain wage rates are not estimated because they are relatively unimportant.

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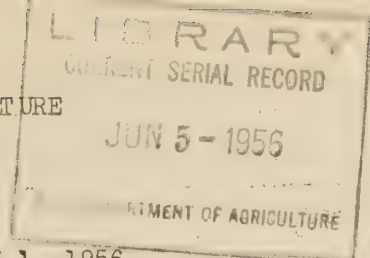
October 13, 1955

Clarence E. White
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Cecil C. Smith
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FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - JANUARY 1, 1956

IDAHO: The index of composite farm wage rates for Idaho on January 1, 1956 was 533 percent of the 1910-14 average, according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for IDAHO. This was 14 points above a year earlier, 11 points above the 1955 annual average and 6 points above October 1, 1955.

The average wage rate per month with board and room this January was \$166, four dollars above last January. The rate per month with house at \$209.00 was six dollars above last January. The rate per day without board or room was up from \$8.60 on January 1, 1955 to \$8.90 this year, and the rate per hour without board or room was up from \$1.05 to \$1.07.

UNITED STATES: The number of persons at work on farms during the week of December 18-24, dropped to 6,088,000. The decrease from a month earlier amounted to about 22 percent, the usual decline for the month. The number of family workers dropped 1,163,000 while the number of hired workers was down 575,000 or about 35 percent.

In comparison with a year ago, there were 3 percent fewer workers employed on farms in late December. There was a small increase in the number of hired workers but this was more than offset by the decrease in the number of family workers.

The average number of persons employed on farms in 1955 was 8,237,000, down about 2.5 percent from 1954. The decline was in both family and hired workers although the number of hired workers decreased only 1.8 percent while the number of family workers showed a drop of 2.8 percent.

Farm wage rates on about January 1 averaged slightly higher than a year earlier for the country as a whole. The seasonally adjusted wage rate index for January 1 this year was 522 compared with 521 a year earlier. Individual types of wage rates were all higher than a year earlier. January 1 farm wage rates averaged higher than a year earlier in all geographic regions. Apparently farm wage rates are being influenced to some extent by increases in wage rates in non-agricultural jobs.

Per month rates with house averaged \$156.00 for the country as a whole with a high of \$247.00 in the Pacific States. Per day rates without board or room averaged \$5.40. These rates were highest in the New England States at \$8.50 and lowest in the East South Central States at \$4.05 and the South Atlantic States at \$5.00. Hourly rates without board or room ranged from \$1.11 in the Pacific States to \$0.56 in the East South Central States and averaged \$0.91 for the entire country.

The seasonally adjusted index of farm wage rates on about January 1 was nearly 1 percent higher than the index for the previous quarter. During the past year farm wage rates dropped about 1 percent from January 1, 1955 to April 1 and continued to decline at a rate of about 1 percent to July 1. However, from July 1 to October 1, the index advanced about 1½ percent. The rise in the index from October to January 1 is probably due in part to the establishment of new rates for workers employed the year round. Workers of this type are generally more highly skilled and have been reported increasingly more difficult to obtain and retain.

Farm work during the week of December 18-24 was near its seasonal low and farmers in most parts of the country were doing little more than necessary chores. Temperatures in the Northeast and North Central States were considerably below normal, but temperatures in the remainder of the country were above normal. There was very little rainfall or snow except along the West Coast where heavy rains resulted in severe flooding in northern and central California and sections of Oregon. Some of the jobs in the country, other than chores and maintenance work, were vegetable cultivation and harvest in Florida, Lower Texas, Arizona and Southern California; cotton harvest in California, Arizona and Texas although this task was nearly completed and harvest of citrus in Florida and California. Farm activities in other areas included the stripping of tobacco in the Burley area and completion of sugar cane harvest in Louisiana.

The number of persons at work on farms during the survey week dropped sharply from the previous month in all regions. Decreases were about as usual for the season except for a smaller than usual drop in the Mountain States and a larger than usual decline in the Middle Atlantic and West North Central States.

(Over)

PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING WEEK OF DECEMBER 18-24, 1955, WITH COMPARISONS

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.
	Average 50-54 1/	21-27, 1954	19-25, 1954	20-26, 1955	18-24, 1955
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT	T h o u s a n d s				
United States	6,529	7,937	6,277	7,826	6,088
Mountain	289	344	267	350	292
Pacific	474	577	477	573	469
TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS 2/					
United States	5,481	6,256	5,234	6,176	5,013
Mountain	193	183	181	185	183
Pacific	299	319	293	312	285
TOTAL HIRED WORKERS 3/					
United States	1,048	1,681	1,043	1,650	1,075
Mountain	96	161	86	165	109
Pacific	175	258	184	261	184

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. 2/ Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. 3/ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGE RATES BY STATES, JANUARY 1, 1955 AND 1956 1/

STATE	PER MONTH				PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With House		With Board And Room		Without Board or Room		Without Board or Room	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
	D o l l a r s							
Montana	178.00	190.00	145.00	150.00	7.40	7.90	.98	1.04
IDAHO	203.00	209.00	162.00	166.00	8.60	8.90	1.05	1.07
Wyoming	194.00	195.00	140.00	143.00	7.90	7.80	1.05	1.02
Colorado	176.00	185.00	128.00	136.00	7.40	7.30	.91	.93
New Mexico	160.00	177.00	112.00	124.00	6.00	6.30	.72	.78
Arizona	220.00	225.00	160.00	160.00	7.40	8.20	.78	.86
Utah	203.00	215.00	179.00	190.00	8.20	8.20	1.05	1.05
Nevada	185.00	195.00	165.00	166.00	7.00	7.50	1.05	1.05
Washington	224.00	242.00	173.00	184.00	--	--	1.14	1.17
Oregon	203.00	212.00	164.00	171.00	--	--	1.07	1.14
California	235.00	250.00	180.00	188.00	--	--	1.06	1.10
UNITED STATES	152.00	156.00	122.00	126.00	5.30	5.40	.88	.91

1/ Certain wage rates are not estimated for some States because they are relatively unimportant.

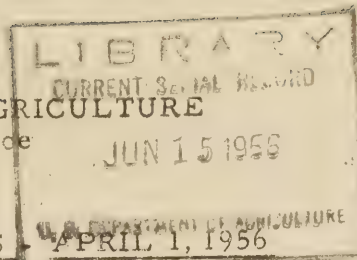
Issued Boise, Idaho
January 18, 1956

Clarence E. White
Agricultural Statistician In Charge

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Agricultural Marketing Service
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Box 1778, Boise, Idaho



FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES

APRIL 1, 1956

IDAHO: The index of composite wage rates paid to Idaho farm laborers on April 1, 1956 at 538 percent of the 1910-14 average was 34 points (7 percent) greater than a year ago, according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for IDAHO. The rate per month with house averaged \$224.00, which was \$14 above April, 1955. The monthly rate with board and room was up \$21 compared with a year earlier. The rate per day without board or room at \$9.10 was 50 cents greater while the hourly rate at \$1.06 was 2¢ above April 1, 1955.

There is considerable demand for reliable and experienced farm workers as well as specially skilled laborers. Otherwise the labor supply is thought to be adequate. The season has been retarded by cold weather and recent frosts have caused considerable anxiety for the orchardists. Field activity was expected to reach full proportions within a short time.

UNITED STATES: About 6,628,000 persons were at work on farms during the week of March 18-24. With the beginning of the spring planting season, the number of farm workers increased 856,000 compared with a month earlier. The increase of 15 percent was the same as usual. The number of family workers at 5,374,000 was up 13 percent from a month earlier while the number of hired workers at 1,254,000 was 25 percent larger.

In comparison with a year earlier, there were 4 percent fewer persons working on farms in March this year than last. The decrease is probably partially accounted for by differences in weather conditions. However, some of the decline is a continuation of the long-time downtrend in the number of persons working on farms.

Wage rates for hired farm workers on April 1 averaged 4 percent higher than a year earlier for the country as a whole. The seasonally adjusted index was 538 compared with 516 last April and with 522 the previous quarter. Averages of all types of farm wage rates were higher for all regions than a year earlier. Increases by regions ranged from a low 1.5 percent in the West North Central States to a high of 6.4 percent in the East South Central States.

Differences in the level of average wage rates between January 1 and April 1 depend on a number of factors and comparisons are difficult. The average of individual rates are affected not only by changes in the rates themselves but also by changes in the number of hired workers in different parts of the country and by differences in the percentages of workers employed at various rates. In addition, the weighted average of all types of rates is affected by differences in the factors used to compute equivalent hourly rates. The seasonally adjusted index of farm wage rates indicated a 3-percent increase in farm wage rates from January 1 to April 1. The level of wage rates in most regions was also higher except in the New England, East North Central, Mountain, and Pacific States where the adjusted index was slightly lower.

During the week of March 18-24, abnormally cold weather together with rain delayed farm work in the eastern half of the country. Frost and freezing temperatures extended to the southeastern coast and into Florida on several days. While winter conditions continued in the East, temperatures in the western half of the country averaged above normal. The warmer weather permitted farm work to begin in many northern areas and accelerated field activities in southern portions.

Where possible, farmers were busy plowing and planting spring crops. In the South, corn planting was underway as far north as South Carolina. Some cotton was being planted in southern Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and South Carolina. Tobacco was being set in the more southern regions. Farm activities in the rest of the country consisted mostly of plowing, working land and planting of some spring crops. Planting of oats was about finished as far north as Kansas. Land intended for corn was also being prepared in many parts of the country. Cold weather delayed the production of maple sugar and sirup in the Northeast.

Harvest activities were mostly confined to the South and consisted largely of citrus and vegetables in Florida, California, and the Lower Valley of Texas. In Louisiana, the harvest of strawberries, cabbage, and shallots was in progress.

The number of family workers increased by about the usual amount from February to March for the country and for most regions. In the New England and Middle Atlantic States the increase was smaller than usual while in the Mountain and Pacific States the number of family workers increased more than usual.

(Over)

There was a few less hired workers employed on all farms in the country in March this year than a year earlier. The largest decline was in the Middle Atlantic States but there were also fewer hired workers on farms in the South Atlantic, East South Central and Pacific States. The greatest increase was in the Mountain States. Small increases were reported in the West North Central and West South Central States. The number of hired workers in the New England and East North Central States was about the same as a year earlier.

FARM EMPLOYMENT: JANUARY THROUGH MARCH 1956, WITH COMPARISONS 1/

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS	1951-55	1953	1954	1955	1956
	T h o u s a n d s				
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT					
United States	6,619	6,643	6,556	6,269	5,980
Mountain	273	277	271	260	273
Pacific	468	465	455	472	457
FAMILY WORKERS 2/					
United States	5,505	5,529	5,448	5,206	4,924
Mountain	198	200	197	189	191
Pacific	296	295	290	296	287
HIRED WORKERS 3/					
United States	1,114	1,114	1,108	1,063	1,056
Mountain	75	77	74	71	82
Pacific	172	170	165	176	170

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. 2/ Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. 3/ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGES, SELECTED STATES, APRIL 1, 1955 AND APRIL 1, 1956 1/

STATE	PER MONTH				PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With House		With Board and Room		Without Board and Room		Without Board and Room	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
	D o l l a r s							
Mont.	191.00	198.00	161.00	159.00	7.70	8.30	.99	1.05
IDAHO	210.00	224.00	160.00	181.00	8.60	9.10	1.04	1.06
Wyo.	196.00	203.00	141.00	151.00	8.00	8.40	1.02	1.03
Colo.	182.00	188.00	134.00	136.00	7.40	7.70	.92	.94
N. Mex.	159.00	168.00	112.00	115.00	5.80	6.00	.74	.77
Ariz.	220.00	225.00	150.00	160.00	7.30	7.90	.81	.85
Utah	207.00	224.00	180.00	190.00	8.00	8.50	1.05	1.10
Nev.	180.00	220.00	160.00	160.00	7.30	7.80	1.00	1.10
Wash.	236.00	245.00	186.00	198.00	--	--	1.16	1.18
Oreg.	205.00	221.00	167.00	180.00	--	--	1.10	1.12
Calif.	237.00	251.00	184.00	190.00	--	--	1.06	1.10
U. S.	145.00	152.00	118.00	123.00	5.10	5.40	.85	.89

1/ Certain wage rates are not estimated because they are relatively unimportant.

Issued Boise, Idaho
April 12, 1956

Cecil C. Smith
Agricultural Statistician

Clarence E. White
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FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - JULY 1, 1956

IDAHO: The composite index of farm wage rates for Idaho was 526 percent of the 1910-14 average according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for IDAHO. This compares with 516 in July a year ago and establishes a new record high for the month, the previous high being 519 in 1953.

The average wage rate per month with board and room was \$181.00 compared to \$170.00 per month a year ago. Wage rates per month with house increased from \$218.00 last July to an average of \$227.00 this year. The rate per day without board and room increased from \$9.10 to \$9.20 while the average hourly rate without board and room was unchanged at \$1.06.

There was a fair balance between labor demand and supply with local shortages developing for hay hands and qualified irrigators.

UNITED STATES: About 8.9 million people were at work on farms during the week of June 17-23. Of this total, 6.5 million were operators and unpaid members of their families and 2.4 million were hired workers. The number of family workers was 4 percent less than a year earlier and the number of hired workers was 3 percent less.

In comparison with a month earlier, the number of family workers was down 3 percent while the number of hired workers was up about a fifth or about 400,000. The change in the number of family workers was about usual for the season but the increase in the hired workers was less than usual.

Farm wage rates on about July 1 averaged 5 percent more than a year earlier for the country as a whole. The seasonally adjusted index of farm wage rates was 535 percent of the 1910-14 average compared with 510 July 1, 1955. All types of rates for the Nation were higher than a year ago.

On a regional basis, wage rates averaged higher than a year ago in all regions. Increases varied from 2 percent to 7 percent with the largest increase in the New England States. Increases in industrial wage rates probably had the greatest effect in this area. Individual rates were also mostly higher than a year earlier.

Individual types of wage rates for the country as a whole were up from April 1 but the average was up less than usual as indicated by the drop of 1 percent in the seasonally adjusted index. The index indicates that by regions, changes from April were mixed. The index was down in the Middle Atlantic, East and West North Central, East South Central, and the Mountain States but higher in all other regions. The largest changes were the increase in the New England States and the decrease in the West North Central States. Changes in the other regions were about 1 percent or less.

For individual types of rates practically all rates in all regions were up seasonally except in the South Atlantic States. In this region changes were mixed and some individual rates were lower, however, the seasonally adjusted index for this region increased 1 percent.

Weather during the week of June 17-23 was generally favorable for farm work. Temperatures averaged above normal throughout most of the Central and Mountain States and below normal in the rest of the country. Showers in varying amounts were generally well distributed over the Great Lakes Region, over the Gulf and southern Atlantic coastal areas, and along the Canadian Border from western Montana through Minnesota. Rain fell in the extreme Northwest and showers occurred in most of the Great Plains States; however, the dry weather continued in the Southwest.

The major jobs for the country as a whole were harvesting small grains, making hay, and cultivating various crops. Small grain harvest was about over in the southern part of the country and was starting in the southern areas of the East North Central States. Winter wheat harvest was finished in the earlier areas of Texas and well advanced in the Northern High Plains. The wheat harvest is practically completed in the south central portion of Kansas and has now extended to eastern Colorado, extreme southern Nebraska, northern Missouri, and central portions of Illinois and Virginia. Hay making and crop cultivation were in progress practically everywhere. Cotton hoeing and chopping were proceeding well in the South and the Southwest.

(Over)

Farmers were harvesting vegetables and fruit in many parts of the country. The peach harvest was in progress in Georgia, Alabama, North and South Carolina. Strawberries were being picked in Michigan, Washington, and Oregon. In California, citrus, peaches, apricots, cherries, berries, and grapes were being harvested.

PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING WEEK OF JUNE 17-23, 1956, WITH COMPARISONS

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	June Average 1951-55 ^{1/}	May 22-28 1955	June 19-25, 1955	May 20-26 1956	June 17-23, 1956
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT		T h o u s a n d s			
United States	9,717	8,921	9,329	8,739	8,958
Mountain	415	390	396	396	403
Pacific	730	668	712	651	728
TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS ^{2/}					
United States	7,171	6,947	6,832	6,734	6,547
Mountain	240	259	224	262	234
Pacific	354	350	354	352	350
TOTAL HIRED WORKERS ^{3/}					
United States	2,546	1,974	2,497	2,005	2,411
Mountain	175	131	172	134	169
Pacific	376	318	358	299	378

^{1/} Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. ^{2/} Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. ^{3/} Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGE RATES BY STATES JULY 1, 1955 AND JULY 1, 1956 ^{1/}

STATE	PER MONTH				PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With House		With Board and Room		Without Board or Room		Without Board or Room	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
	D o l l a r s							
Montana	204.00	209.00	167.00	171.00	8.30	8.60	1.02	1.05
IDAHO	218.00	227.00	170.00	181.00	9.10	9.20	1.06	1.06
Wyoming	205.00	191.00	144.00	149.00	8.20	9.00	1.02	1.02
Colorado	184.00	195.00	140.00	147.00	7.60	8.00	.93	.93
New Mexico	164.00	169.00	125.00	121.00	6.20	6.50	.74	.76
Arizona	230.00	230.00	155.00	160.00	7.50	8.00	.85	.85
Utah	220.00	210.00	185.00	178.00	8.30	8.40	1.10	1.10
Nevada	188.00	210.00	160.00	160.00	8.00	8.00	1.05	1.10
Washington	244.00	254.00	198.00	203.00	--	--	1.14	1.20
Oregon	210.00	230.00	172.00	183.00	--	--	1.10	1.12
California	245.00	252.00	190.00	192.00	--	--	1.07	1.13
UNITED STATES	163.00	170.00	125.00	129.00	5.30	5.50	.88	.91

^{1/} Certain wage rates are not estimated because they are relatively unimportant.

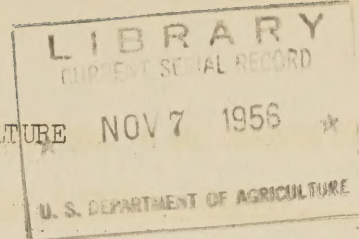
Issued Boise, Idaho July 16, 1956

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Resume
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service
Agricultural Estimates
Box 1778, Boise, Idaho



FARM EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES - OCTOBER 1, 1956

IDAHO: The index of composite wage rates for Idaho on October 1, 1956 stood at 535 percent of the 1910-14 average according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for IDAHO. This is 8 points above the level of October 1, 1955 and marks a new record high for the month.

The average wage rate being paid per month with board and room was \$182 compared with \$177 a year ago. Wages per month with house averaged \$228, nine dollars more than a year ago. The average wage rate per day without board and room was \$9.60 on October 1 this year -- up 20 cents from last year while the average rate per hour without board and room was unchanged from October 1, 1955 at \$1.10. Compared with July 1, 1956 the average per month with house was up \$1.00, per month with board and room up \$1.00, per day without board and room up 40¢, and per hour without board and room up 4¢.

UNITED STATES: About 10,428,000 persons were working on farms during the week of September 23-29. Total farm employment showed a seasonal increase from a month earlier but was still about 4 percent less than during the corresponding period a year earlier.

The increase of 1,190,000 workers from a month earlier was a little less than usual. Family workers showed an increase of 15 percent while the number of hired workers was up 8 percent. The average increases from August to September are 16 percent for family workers and 12 percent for hired workers. The decrease of 421,000 workers from a year ago was entirely due to a drop in the number of family workers, as the number of hired workers was slightly larger.

Farm wage rates on October 1 were up 5 percent from a year earlier and 6 percent from July 1 to a record high for this time of year. The farm wage rate index for October 1 this year was 550 compared with 518 a year earlier and 535 for the previous quarter. Apparently farm wage rates are being influenced by increases in wage rates in non-agricultural jobs.

Individual types of wage rates averaged higher than a year ago for all classifications. The monthly rate with house was up \$7 to average \$161, the daily rate without board or room was up 30 cents to average 66 while the hourly rate without board was up 5 cents to 82 cents.

When compared with the previous quarter, per day with house, per day without board or room, and per hour with house rates averaged higher. The per month with board and room rate was unchanged and all other types of rates were lower. These changes are in line with the usual seasonal trends, but the resulting average for all wage rates was up more than usual.

Wage rates as measured by the seasonally adjusted index were up from a year ago on October 1 for all regions. Increases were largest in the South Atlantic, New England, East South Central, and Middle Atlantic States. The average was up least in the Mountain States. Compared with the previous quarter, wage rates were lower in the Mountain States, unchanged in the Pacific States, and higher in all other States. Largest increases were in the East South Central and South Atlantic States.

The weather during the survey week was featured by the hurricane "Flossy" which moved from the Gulf of Mexico at the beginning of the week in a north-easterly direction across the Carolina coast and out to sea. Intensity of the winds decreased as the hurricane moved inland, and most of the damage to farm crops was in Louisiana, Florida, and southern Georgia. Rain accompanying the storm fell from Louisiana to New England, ranging from a heavy fall in the South Atlantic area to less than an inch in southern New England. Most of the rest of the country had dry weather which was ideal for harvesting seasonal crops, but dry soil conditions continued to delay fall seeding operations throughout the southern Great Plains area.

(Over)

FARM EMPLOYMENT & WAGE RATES

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PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING WEEK OF SEPT. 23-29, 1956, WITH COMPARISONS

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	Sept. Average 51-55 <u>1/</u>	Aug. 21-27, 1955	Sept. 18-24, 1955	Aug. 19-25 1956	Sept. 23-29 1956
	T h o u s a n d s				
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT					
United States	11,388	9,602	10,849	9,238	10,428
Mountain	474	497	454	453	492
Pacific	800	737	814	769	770
TOTAL FAMILY WORKERS <u>2/</u>					
United States	8,328	6,876	7,960	6,533	7,502
Mountain	271	251	255	250	258
Pacific	333	339	334	339	329
TOTAL HIRED WORKERS <u>3/</u>					
United States	3,060	2,726	2,889	2,705	2,926
Mountain	203	246	199	203	234
Pacific	467	398	480	430	441

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. 2/ Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages. 3/ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

FARM WAGE RATES BY STATES OCTOBER 1, 1955 AND OCTOBER 1, 1956 1/

STATE	PER MONTH				PER DAY		PER HOUR	
	With House		With Board and Room		Without Board or Room		Without Board or Room	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
	D o l l a r s							
Montana	199.00	206.00	165.00	172.00	8.30	8.60	1.09	1.10
IDAHO	219.00	228.00	177.00	182.00	9.40	9.60	1.10	1.10
Wyoming	200.00	203.00	146.00	153.00	8.50	9.00	1.07	1.10
Colorado	191.00	193.00	141.00	145.00	7.80	8.00	.97	.96
New Mexico	170.00	164.00	122.00	115.00	6.40	6.00	.78	.81
Arizona	235.00	250.00	160.00	175.00	8.00	8.30	.85	.85
Utah	213.00	212.00	192.00	183.00	8.20	8.50	1.10	1.12
Nevada	190.00	210.00	162.00	160.00	8.00	8.40	1.05	1.10
Washington	240.00	252.00	205.00	209.00	--	--	1.19	1.23
Oregon	215.00	228.00	173.00	179.00	--	--	1.10	1.14
California	243.00	255.00	185.00	193.00	--	--	1.09	1.14
UNITED STATES	154.00	161.00	125.00	129.00	5.70	6.00	.77	.82

1/ Certain wage rates are not estimated because they are relatively unimportant.

Issued Boise, Idaho
October 12, 1956

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